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Letter dated 31 December 2007 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Congo to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa for the period 2006-2007 as adopted by the members (see annex).

I would like to request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Luc Joseph **Okio**
Chargé d'affaire a.i.
Chairman of the Ad Hoc Working Group on
Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa

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Annex

Report on the activities of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa for the period 2006-2007

I. Introduction

1. The Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa was established by a note by the President of the Security Council (S/2002/207). It is mandated:

(a) To monitor the implementation of recommendations contained in presidential statement S/PRST/2002/2 and previous presidential statements and resolutions regarding conflict prevention and resolution in Africa;

(b) To propose recommendations on the enhancement of cooperation between the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council as well as with other United Nations agencies dealing with Africa;

(c) To examine, in particular, regional and cross-conflict issues that affect the Council's work on African conflict prevention and resolution;

(d) To propose recommendations to the Security Council to enhance cooperation in conflict prevention and resolution between the United Nations and regional (African Union) and subregional organizations.

2. The Congo followed Benin as Chairman of the Ad Hoc Working Group, pursuant to a note by the President of the Security Council dated 5 January 2006 (S/2006/7); Basile Ikouebe, Ambassador and Permanent Representative, was elected as its Chairman. This mandate was renewed in a note by the President of the Security Council dated 18 January 2007 (S/2007/20).

3. In May 2007, having been appointed to the post of Minister of Foreign Affairs and Francophonie, Mr. Ikouebe relinquished his office; he was replaced as Chairman of the Ad Hoc Working Group by Mr. Pascal Gayama, Ambassador, Deputy Permanent Representative, Chargé d'affaires a.i., pursuant to a note by the President of the Security Council dated 27 July 2007.

4. Pursuant to a note by the President of the Security Council dated 20 November 2007 (S/2007/674), Luc Joseph Okio, Chargé d'affaires a.i., assumed the functions of Chairman of the Ad Hoc Working Group until 31 December 2007.

5. The present report of the Ad Hoc Working Group reflects the activities conducted during two successive mandates (2006-2007) under the chairmanship of the Congo.

6. In implementation of Security Council resolution 1625 (2005) and in accordance with its programme of work, the Ad Hoc Working Group held 17 meetings, including both regular working sessions of its members and interactive presentations by high-level officials of the United Nations Secretariat and representatives of Member States. This intense activity culminated in the holding of a seminar entitled: "An effective global conflict prevention strategy in Africa: The role of the Security Council".

7. The Ad Hoc Working Group focused on the following priorities:

(a) Evaluation of and follow-up to the conclusions of the 14 September 2005 Security Council meeting at the level of Heads of State and Government on the implementation of resolution 1625 (2005);

(b) Building closer cooperation between the United Nations and African regional organizations in the field of peace and security in the wake of the seminar entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and the African regional organizations in the field of peace and security", held in New York on 15 December 2005.

A. Activities scheduled

8. The Ad Hoc Working Group's programme of work envisaged two primary activities: briefings on topics related to conflict prevention by high-level officials of the United Nations Secretariat and representatives of Member States involved in conflict prevention, and holding of a seminar on the global conflict prevention strategy in Africa.

9. The Ad Hoc Working Group also planned to organize, during the Congolese presidency of the Security Council in August, an open debate on the topic of maintenance of international peace and security: role of the Security Council in conflict prevention and resolution, in particular in Africa.

10. In the context of implementation of this programme, the Ad Hoc Working Group undertook to hold monthly meetings; contact various stakeholders and bodies involved in conflict prevention with a view to interactive dialogue; prepare background documents for the open debate and the seminar; develop guidelines; hold an Arria formula meeting; and prepare a draft decision (presidential statement or resolution) and draft reports.

B. Activities conducted

11. During the past two years, the Ad Hoc Working Group's activities have included the holding of five interactive discussions and one seminar.

1. Interactive discussions

12. On 10 November 2006, the Deputy Director of the Africa II Division in the Department of Political Affairs gave a presentation on the progress report of the Secretary-General on the prevention of armed conflict (A/60/891) and its links with Security Council resolution 1625 (2005).

13. In her presentation, the Deputy Director noted that the focus was too often on reacting to conflicts rather than preventing them and that the persistence of conflicts on the Council's agenda, their recurrence and their increasing complexity were often a consequence of a lack of more creative and ambitious initiatives. She stressed the need to take a comprehensive approach in order to achieve a long-term solution to the serious crises that have an impact on stability in Africa. In particular, she drew attention to a gap in implementation of the Charter of the United Nations with

regard to the potential, and the need, for the Security Council to play an active role in conflict prevention.

14. During the ensuing discussion, the members of the Ad Hoc Working Group agreed to recognize the need to set priorities for its work while continuing to discuss the establishment of an African Union early warning system and the illegal exploitation of natural resources; to take into account, in the context of conflict prevention and resolution, certain cultural factors that often give rise to conflicts, including ignorance and lack of education; to focus also on other sources of conflicts, such as the movement of small arms and light weapons and the lack of means to address that problem; and the need for effective interaction both between the various United Nations mechanisms and between the United Nations and regional organizations.

15. On 21 November 2006, the Director of the Africa Division in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations gave a presentation on strengthening African peacekeeping capacities in the context of the implementation of Security Council resolution 1625 (2005) and the outcome of the 2005 World Summit (resolution 60/1).

16. He described a number of measures aimed at strengthening African States' peacekeeping capacities:

(a) Security Council support for the Secretary-General of the United Nations in his proposal to establish a 10-year African Union capacity-building programme. It was urgent for African States and the international community to strengthen their cooperation in order to increase the deployment capacities of African regional and subregional organizations, both military and civilian, including creation of an African Union standby force. In that regard, the four priority areas targeted by the African Union — strengthening of the operation planning and management capacities of its personnel; provision of training to peacekeeping operations, including for civilian personnel; logistical support; and assistance with the mobilization of funds for peacekeeping operations — were greatly appreciated and were already the subject of consultations between the two international organizations;

(b) The technical discussions initiated last year by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations with a view to the development of a joint action plan to provide support for strengthening African Union capacities in this area;

(c) The missions conducted by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, from 1 to 3 June 2006 in Addis Ababa, and by the African Union, from 15 to 17 August 2006 in New York, in the context of establishment of a standby force, to be completed in 2010;

(d) The declaration on enhanced United Nations-African Union cooperation, signed on 16 November 2006 in Addis Ababa by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission.

17. The Ad Hoc Working Group considers that the signing of a declaration stressing the importance of cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations, based on Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, was timely from the point of view of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID), which needed to be strengthened.

18. On 4 January 2007, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs gave a presentation on cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union in which he said that most of the African peace processes and post-conflict situations in which the United Nations was involved were being strengthened. Highly encouraging developments had been noted during the elections in Burundi, Liberia, Sierra Leone and, most recently, the Democratic Republic of the Congo. With regard to the implementation of resolution 1625 (2005), the United Nations Secretariat remained actively involved in the prevention of conflicts on the African continent through its peacekeeping missions and good offices, including in Guinea-Bissau and Central Africa and through the United Nations Office for West Africa; it was thanks to that Office that the border dispute between Nigeria and Cameroon had been settled. In addition to the 10-year United Nations-African Union cooperation plan, which called for strengthening the African Union's peacekeeping capacity, other equally important areas such as peace and security, including the prevention of organized crime; assistance in the form of institutional, political and electoral support; good governance, human rights and the rule of law; and humanitarian assistance, post-conflict recovery and food security; had been targeted for cooperation.

19. The Ad Hoc Working Group considered that the benchmarks for strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union had already been established by setting priorities in the area of peace and security, including with regard to their short-, medium- and long-term achievement, in accordance with resolution 1625 (2005) and the conclusions of the 2005 World Summit.

20. On 26 March 2007, the Chief of the Regional Disarmament Branch in the Office for Disarmament Affairs gave a presentation on the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa and its role as a catalyst in the development of confidence-building measures that contribute to conflict prevention in countries of the subregion. She recalled that it was the Committee's role to promote arms limitation, disarmament, non-proliferation and development of the Central African subregion. In addition to ministerial meetings that gave Member States an opportunity to consider the geopolitical and security situation of the subregion and to make recommendations for preventing the emergence and resurgence of conflicts, the Committee organized seminars and conferences at which experiences were exchanged in the context of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted.

21. She described the Committee's achievements, which included, inter alia, the signing, on 8 July 1996 in Yaoundé, of the Non-Aggression Pact between countries members of the Committee; establishment of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa (COPAX) in 1999; development of the early warning mechanism for Central Africa, based in Libreville; creation of the Central African Multinational Force; and establishment of the Subregional Centre for Human Rights and Democracy. She concluded by urging States members of the Committee to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund for the Standing Advisory Committee so that it could continue its work and translate its decisions into concrete measures; and to assume their responsibilities by making COPAX and its mechanisms, particularly the early warning mechanism for Central Africa, operational.

22. The members of the Ad Hoc Working Group welcomed the existence of such a Committee in the context of Central Africa; it had already accomplished a great

deal. They encouraged the holding of similar meetings in order to increase awareness of the Committee and its initiatives, not only by the United Nations but by other bilateral and multilateral partners that might provide it with needed assistance. Lastly, they expressed the hope that a partnership would be established between countries members of the Committee and of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region in order to avoid duplication of effort in some areas of common activity.

23. On 21 June 2007, Jean-Francis Zinsou, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Benin to the United Nations, which had chaired the Ad Hoc Working Group in 2005, presented a comprehensive review of resolution 1625 (2005), which gave rise to many questions on matters such as additional research into the root causes of conflicts in order to prevent their emergence; establishment of an operational conflict prevention mechanism; creation of a forum for all United Nations system stakeholders involved in conflict prevention in order to transcend the current fragmented approach in favour of a systematic approach applicable to various types of conflicts (including internal and international conflicts); creation of a conflict risk monitoring body and a conflict prevention mechanism under the authority of the Security Council, even though the establishment of such bodies is not envisaged in resolution 1625 (2005); the urgent need for the international community to intervene on behalf of groups of victims of serious violations of human rights, which must take precedence over the right of sovereignty; and the question of expanding the Ad Hoc Working Group's mandate beyond issues relating to Africa, and thus of a possible resolution to complement resolution 1625 (2005).

2. Seminar

24. On 3 December 2007, the Ad Hoc Working Group held a seminar entitled "An effective global conflict prevention strategy in Africa: The role of the Security Council".

25. This seminar was organized in the context of the implementation of resolution 1625 (2005) and of presidential statement S/PRST/2007/31, following a forum organized in June 2005 under the chairmanship of Benin on enhancing the United Nations capacity for conflict prevention: the role of the Security Council.

26. The purpose of the seminar was to strengthen the Security Council's conflict prevention efforts through an approach focusing on a culture of prevention.

27. With the help of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa and the Department of Political Affairs, the Ad Hoc Working Group led the preparatory process leading to the development and adoption of the terms of reference and agenda for the seminar and selection of the panellists.

28. The following topics were addressed during the seminar:

(a) Cooperation between the Security Council and the United Nations system;

(b) Opportunities for cooperation between the Security Council, the African Union and other partners;

(c) Cooperation with United Nations intergovernmental bodies.

29. On the basis of a questionnaire adopted by the Ad Hoc Working Group, the seminar participants stressed the purposes of the United Nations as set forth in Chapter I, Article 1, of the Charter; the Security Council's primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security; the role of the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Peacebuilding Commission; and cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations under Chapter VIII of the Charter.

30. At the end of the seminar — a detailed report on which is attached (see appendix) — it was the participants' task to formulate recommendations, on the basis of which the Security Council would be able to take appropriate action in order to fill existing gaps; move beyond the current fragmented approach, which leads to a continual waste of energy and resources; establish effective synergies appropriate to the ongoing structural innovations in the United Nations; and develop a mechanism for involving the entire United Nations system, the Bretton Woods institutions, regional and subregional bodies, the private sector and civil society, each of which has a role to play in conflict prevention, while clearly stating the role of the Security Council as the body with primary responsibility in matters relating to international peace and security.

II. Conclusion

31. The results obtained by the Ad Hoc Working Group during the past two years under the chairmanship of the Congo, however modest, have made it possible to refocus discussion of the issue of conflict prevention in Africa.

32. On behalf of the members of the Ad Hoc Working Group, the Congo would like to request that in the future, the Council should pay sustained attention to the conclusions and recommendations of the seminar with a view to taking appropriate decisions.

New York, 29 December 2007

(*Signed*) Luc Joseph **Okio**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Chairman of the Ad Hoc Working Group on
Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa

Appendix

Report of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa seminar on an effective global conflict prevention strategy in Africa: the role of the Security Council

New York, 3 December 2007

REPORT OF THE SEMINAR

Introduction:

1. In the context of the mandate and the implementation of its Programme of Work for the years 2006 and 2007, and specifically pursuant to resolution 1625 (2005) and PRST/2007/31, the United Nations Security Council Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa chaired by Mr. Luc Joseph Okio, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Congo, held on 3 December 2007, a seminar on the topic **"An effective global conflict prevention strategy in Africa: the role of the Security Council"**. The background paper by the Chair is attached as Annex I.

2. The Seminar was open to all Members of the United Nations as well as Agencies, Programmes and Funds of the United Nations and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and other Organizations of the Civil Society. The seminar addressed the following issues:

- Cooperation between the Security Council and the United Nations system organizations;
- Opportunities for cooperation between the Security Council, the African Union and other partners;
- Cooperation among UN intergovernmental bodies.

3. During the opening session of the Seminar the participants heard statements from the following persons:

Mr. Luc Joseph Okio, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Congo to the United Nations, Chairperson of the Security Council Ad hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa; Mrs. Margaret Vogt, Deputy-Director, Africa I Division, DPA, H.E. Mrs. Lila Hanitra Ratsifandrihamanana, Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations, Mr. Patrick Hayford Director and Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Special Adviser on Africa.

4. The seminar had as its Facilitators, Mrs. Margaret Vogt, Deputy Director, Africa 1 Division in the Department of Political Affairs (DPA), Dr. Kwesi Aning, of the Kofi Annan Centre, Accra, Ghana and Ambassador Marcello Spatafora, Permanent Representative of Italy and President of the Security Council for the month of December, 2007. Each Facilitator guided the discussions during the three main sessions.

5. In addition, statements were made by the following invited panelists during the various sessions:

Session I

- Mr. Jan Egeland, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Matters Relating to the Prevention and Resolution of Conflicts;
- Mr. Francis Deng, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities;
- Mrs. Sally Fegan-Wyles, Director of the United Nations Development Group;
- Mr. Ejeviome Eloho Otobo, Director, Strategic Planning, Peacebuilding Support Office; and
- Mr. Ngonlardje Mbaidjo, Director, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, OHCHR

Session II

- H.E. Mrs. Lila Hanitra Ratsifandrihamanana, Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations;
- H.E. Mr. João Manuel Guerra Salgueiro, Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations, EU Presidency;
- H.E. Mr. Fernando Valenzuela, Head of the delegation of the European Commission; and
- Dr. Sarjoh Bah, Centre on International Cooperation, New York University

Session III

- H.E. Mr. Maurer, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations, Co-Chair of the General Assembly Group of Friends on Conflict Prevention
- H.E. Mr. Dumisani Kumalo, Permanent Representative of South-Africa, Co-Chair of the ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on African Countries Emerging from Conflict; and
- H.E. Mr. Yukio Takasu, Permanent Representative of Japan, Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission

6. Representatives of the fifteen (15) Members of the Security Council and sixty-four (64) Member States of the United Nations participated in the seminar. Representatives of United Nations Departments, Agencies, Funds and Programmes as well as representatives of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) and other Organizations of Civil Society, also participated in the seminar. A total of fifty-two (52) participants took the floor during the seminar. Summaries of the proceedings of the seminar are contained in Annex II of the present report.

7. The overall objective of the Seminar was to assess and make recommendations to the Security Council, pursuant to its resolution 1625 (2005), on ways in which the Council might contribute to the strengthening of the important role of the United Nations in the prevention of violent conflicts; while developing effective partnerships and coordination between itself and other stakeholders. Accordingly, the seminar was designed to focus on systemic and operational levels of conflict prevention and the role of the Security Council in each of them; and to consider how to better implement Security Council resolution 1625; identify some of the existing gaps; clarify the role of the Security Council vis-à-vis different actors / partners (Member States, United Nations system organizations, Regional Organizations, civil society), and recommend concrete methods to ensure appropriate coordination and coherence among the different stakeholders. More specifically, the seminar participants were encouraged to be guided in their discussions and to seek answers to find answers to the question: "***What more can the Security Council do to prevent the outbreak of conflicts in the first place, particularly in Africa, and hence ease the burden of responding to so many costly crises?***"

8. Pursuant to resolution 1625 (2005) and PRST/2007/31, the Seminar also sought ways by which it could through its deliberations and outcome contribute to the elaboration of an effective global conflict-prevention strategy. In this context, the participants discussed various aspects of the cooperation between the Security Council and the United Nations system organizations; opportunities for cooperation between the Security Council, the African Union and other partners; and cooperation among UN intergovernmental bodies. This three-track approach, enabled the participants to focus on the working methods of the Council as it pertained to conflict prevention, the Council's cooperation with its partners and other stakeholders in conflict prevention, particularly the African Union (AU) and the cooperation and coherence or lack thereof, within the UN system in which the Security Council was a primary organ and therefore, a key player.

Synopsis of General Discussions during the Seminar

9. Generally, participants at the Seminar welcomed the unique opportunity offered to UN Member States who were not Council Members and representatives of the UN common system to engage in a direct dialogue with the Security Council on conflict prevention. From the outset, the Seminar reaffirmed the Security Council's primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. Various participants observed that while conflict prevention was not directly the Security Council's Charter remit, they nevertheless believed that the Council had an important role to play in

conflict prevention and the prevention of armed conflicts. Participants recognized conflict prevention as the precursor to, and an integral part of, the maintenance of international peace and security, through other means including preventive deployment and peacekeeping. It was also acknowledged that more recently, the Security Council has been better in focusing on preventive action and long-term efforts. Yet, some participants contended that the Council was still too reactive rather than proactive due to conservative and in-built caution.

10. A broad range of views were put forward on how the Security Council might enhance its role in conflict prevention, either directly, on in partnership with other key actors and stakeholders. Specific proposals were made on how the Security Council could enhance cooperation with its partners within the United Nations system organizations; cooperation between it and the African Union and other regional partners; and cooperation with intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations.

11. **On the cooperation between the Security Council and the United Nations system organizations,** it was recognized by some participants that conflict prevention by its nature remained a multi-dimensional concept. Thus, its effective implementation at all levels required sustained coordination between the Security Council and members of the United Nations common system. Many participants expressed the view that, generally speaking, the Security Council did not at this stage, play the expected proactive role in conflict prevention. In the same vein, some participants expressed concern about how the Council's proactive involvement in conflict prevention might impact on national sovereignty. Some participants advocated the need for the Council to pay more attention to the root causes of conflict, and make a more effective use of information available to partners within the UN for that purpose.

12. Several participants cited the lack of clarity on the parameters guiding the Security Council's partnership with other actors in matters of conflict prevention. In this context, some participants spoke of the need for more transparency in the working methods of the Security Council and the imperative of an early response by the Council to unfolding conflicts, as well as its willingness to share information and receive direct information from various sources. Some participants advocated a more effective and expanded use of the Aria Formula meetings for this purpose. One participant urged the Council to consider requesting briefings from staff that work in the field, especially those below the level of the SRSG and avail the UN common system with greater scope and leeway to present the Council with information as they see fit. The Council was further enjoined to continue its practices of going on missions and to make regular visits to the field. The Council was urged to, inter alia, consider requesting in a systematic manner, periodic briefings by the High Commissioner for Human Rights on human rights situation in countries at risk of conflict and on thematic subjects under consideration. It was also suggested that mandate-holders could at the request of Council, share information on good practices and lessons learned from their engagements with countries and the inform Security Council of the extent to which countries have been cooperating with the mechanisms and following on their recommendations.

13. **On opportunities for cooperation between the Security Council, the African Union and other partners,** discussants focused on how the Security Council might enhance its role in conflict prevention and how there could be better cooperation with its regional and other partners. With differing degrees of emphasis, participants addressed several core issues relating to the Security Council's interaction with its regional partners and other interlocutors, which they believed would enhance the Council's role in conflict prevention if they were addressed. Primarily, some participants stressed the essence of developing synergies and the importance of building the Council's capacity to coordinate in a coherent manner, its activities with regional organizations and other stakeholders involved in conflict prevention. However, some participants observed that often, the Security Council was perceptibly disinclined to prevent conflict before it spread or spilled over, despite early warnings and that it also had a tendency to respond to the role and decisions of its partners, including regional organizations in an ad hoc fashion.

14. While still on the question of partnership, some participants concluded that reforming the Security Council should be seen as part of the broader process of defining the Security Council's partnership with its interlocutors. Another participant underlined the need to operationalize risk assessment and the collective action of the international community in conflict prevention. However, the question was also raised as to the kind of partnership that was desired; and whether it would be "a partnership of equals or one that is tilted in favour of one of the parties". One participant underscored the need to continue reflecting on the nature of inter-action and systemic coherence, the effective management of conflicts, as well as the need to provide for the framework of constructive management of identity conflict and the management of diversity.

15. More specifically on Africa, several participants spoke of the need to further enhance the cooperation between the Council and the African Union (AU) in matters of conflict prevention. A participant called on the Security Council to

explore what mechanisms that could be put in place to ensure effective, *efficient* and *coherent* coordination between the Security Council, the AU' s Peace and Security Council and other decision-making organs of the Regional Economic Communities. Several participants traced the root causes to conflict in Africa to the proliferations of small arms and light weapons and therefore, called on those who produced such arms to be more accountable.

16. One participant stressed that capacity-building at all levels was crucial to any progress in the African peace and security architecture including conflict prevention. He noted that African-owned capacities had to be reinforced in a sustainable way, which took time and required medium-term and long-term planning and applauded the UN ten-year capacity boiling plan as the right approach in this regard. This view was also supported by the call on the Security Council and AU to develop additional tools that would allow them to be present in countries facing conflict much earlier and to look at and draw lessons from successful preventive efforts, and make UN tools, such as Secretary-General's good offices and expertise of the UN agencies, available to the regions, including the AU. The joint effort by ECOWAS, the AU and UN to resolve the conflict in Cote d'Ivoire was cited as an interesting example of a trilateral interaction that could provide useful lessons for future conflict prevention initiatives involving the Security Council and its African partners. Another participant stated that the lessons learned in Darfur, should be basis for further consideration to developing a tripartite cooperation among the UN, the AU and the EU in prevention and settlement of conflicts.

17. **On the cooperation among UN intergovernmental bodies,** it was variously stated that while prevention of conflicts was the main purpose of the United Nations, very little resources were devoted to prevention as compared to peacekeeping. Nonetheless, progress had been made in global conflict prevention as there were fifty percent fewer conflicts now than in 1989. A participant called for closer attention to be given to internal displacements and refugee flows since routinely, they were clear indicators and symptoms of deeper conflicts. Furthermore, it was stressed that there was a need to strengthen peace building as a prevention strategy given the tendency of formerly distressed countries to relapse into conflict.

18. Also, several participants contended that for conflict prevention to be effective, aspects pertaining to the root causes of conflict which were interlinked with the political, human rights and development dimensions had to be addressed. Accordingly, a holistic approach to prevention and management of conflicts was emphasized, despite what was recognized as the prevailing dysfunctional situation created by the unique "architecture of the UN". Given the general acceptance that discernible gaps still existed in the coordination and coherence process relating to conflict prevention activities within the United Nations, participants underscored that such "dysfunctional" tendencies needed to be addressed urgently.

19. In this context, also, the need for increased and better coordinated Security Council interaction with UN organs such as the General Assembly, ECOSOC, the Peacebuilding Commission, and the Human Rights Council as well as with UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes was highlighted. Furthermore, another participant advocated that the Council should encourage the Secretary-General to make greater use of Article 99 and should itself consider using the risk assessment methodologies currently employed in the private sector. The participant was also of the view that the Council ought to make greater use of Groups of Friends and the Arria Formula meetings and seminars. A specific proposal was made in this regard, that UN Special Representatives in Africa should be encouraged to provide lessons learned and the Secretary-General encouraged reporting on conflict prevention achievements based on indicators and targets. Similarly, the Council itself was called upon to hold an annual landmark debate on conflict prevention in Africa and to examine commonalities between the various platforms in order to avoid encroachment. The participant also voiced support for the establishing of an advisory body of academics for the General Assembly, Security Council and ECOSOC and the sequencing the agenda items of each of those organs.

20. Several participants spoke in favour of integrating human rights into conflict prevention, and welcomed the Council's increasing and significantly evolving role in that regard. The practice of the Security Council establishing international tribunals to deal with grave breaches of human rights and international humanitarian law as well as its referral of cases to the International Criminal Court (ICC) was acknowledged as positive and applauded.

21. In summary, participants expressed the view that the Security Council can contribute significantly to enhancing conflict prevention by cooperating and coordinating its activities with the Secretary-General, intergovernmental bodies, and regional organizations in the context of Chapter VIII arrangements. Attention was also called to the fact that conflict prevention was not the monopoly of any organ of the United Nations, but the shared responsibility of all UN Member

States and Organs. Each Organ, therefore, was encouraged to undertake those tasks in which it had comparative advantage, but also to strive to complement the policies and activities of the other organs.

22. Although the discussions during the Seminar were animated, not every participant was optimistic of the prospects of an enhanced role for the Council in conflict prevention, and not all views on the subject coincided. For that reason the Seminar did not produce agreed conclusions and recommendations, but it was agreed that the Chairman of the Ad hoc Working should presents a summary of what transpired and the proposals made participants. Therefore, at the conclusion of the Seminar, the Ad hoc Working Group took note of the various views and suggestions expressed by participants on the role of the Security Council in conflict prevention, and how it might be further enhanced. The suggestions and proposals made by the participants are summarized in paragraph 23 below.

Summary by the Chair of proposals made by participants to the Ad Hoc Working Group during the Seminar on "An Effective and Global Conflicts Prevention Strategy in Africa: the Role of the Security Council":

23. The seminar held on 3 December 2007 on the formulation of " An effective global conflict prevention strategy in Africa : the role of the Security Council" was aimed principally **at making a set of recommendations** to the Ad hoc Working Group and the Security Council **in order** to find answers to the question: What more can the Security Council do to prevent the outbreak, **the escalation or recurrence of armed conflicts**, particularly in Africa, and hence **decrease** the burden **in** responding to so many costly crises? And, in this context, aimed principally **to constitute** the basis for an appropriate action to be taken, namely:

(i). to correct the existing lapses and update a fragmented approach which results in a continuous waste of energy and resources;

(ii). to set up efficient synergies more appropriate with the ongoing structural changes within the United Nations;

(iii). to enhance cooperation between the United Nations System as a whole, the Bretton Woods institutions, the regional and sub regional organizations, the private sector and the civil society, considering that each of them has a role to play in conflict prevention, while emphasizing the role of the Security Council as the principal organ for maintaining international peace and security.

Besides members of the Working Group, the seminar benefited from the contribution of distinguished moderators, panelists and other participants to whom we would like to express our appreciation once more. Basing their interactive discussions on a range of questions presented by the Working Group, the participants did at the outset recall:

- The objectives of the United Nations as defined in Article 1, Chapter I of the Charter;
- The primary responsibility of the Security Council in maintaining international peace and Security;
- The role of the General Assembly , the ECOSOC and the Peacebuilding Commission;
- The cooperation between the United Nations, the regional and sub-regional organizations, in conformity with Chapter VIII of the Charter.

Many participants expressed the view that, generally speaking, the Security Council did not at this stage, play the expected proactive role in conflict prevention. Accordingly, during the Seminar, the following recommendations were expressed by one or several participants:

1. Develop mechanisms allowing the Security Council to take early action;
2. Set up an early warning mechanism with a view to strengthening the proactive role of the United Nations bodies and enhance the capacities of existing regional and sub regional mechanisms;
3. Provide the Secretary-General with a clear mandate in the field of preventive diplomacy;
4. Ensure strong and coherent support to the Secretary-General or his representatives' efforts in preventive diplomacy through the strong and unanimous decisions (resolutions or declarations) of the Council;

5. Devote particular attention to disputes or situations which might endanger the maintenance of international peace and security;

6. Dispatch fact-finding missions to areas of growing concern, where there situation might constitute a threat to international peace and security and ensure full UN field agencies support to such missions;

7. Consider adequate and effective preventive measures against the outbreak, escalation, or recurrence of armed conflict in concert with other prevention actors while ensuring due respect of the sovereignty of States;

8. Consider the use of the *Arria Formula* in order to promote dialogue with other conflict prevention actors;

9. Pay careful and constant attention to the recommendations of expert groups and sanctions committees;

10. Ensure compliance with embargoes and implementation of targeted sanctions;

11. Strengthen the capacities of the Department of Political Affairs (DPA) in preventive diplomacy;

12. Set up an action coordinating mechanism between the Security Council and ECOSOC with a view to ensuring the coherent mobilization of UN Agencies, Programs and Funds and of the Bretton Woods institutions;

13. Strengthen and enhance existing partnerships between the Security Council, regional and sub-regional organizations, in conformity with chapter VIII of the Charter;

14. Develop standard operating procedures in the event of threats to international peace and security;

15. Give adequate support to the initiatives and actions of regional and sub-regional organizations in conflict prevention and settlement, including in the framework or inter regional partnerships;

16. Establish as a rule the systematic practice of appointing Joint Special Envoys in the framework of official partnerships;

17. Support the processes of policy rationalization and improvement of working methods undertaken by such partner organizations;

18. Hold joint sessions between the Security Council and counterpart regional organizations similar to the joint meeting held in June 2007 in Addis Ababa with the African Union Peace and Security Council;

19. Support the organization and funding of seminars organized by the African Union Peace and Security Council and ensure the capacity building of the support personnel of such partners;

20. Promote horizontal contacts and joint visits facilitating information sharing and mutual support on internal peace and security issues among partners;

21. Hold periodic public debates with a view to listening to the viewpoints of Member states on conflict prevention issues;

22. Hold periodic meetings and seminars with the participation of the General Assembly, the ECOSOC and the Peacebuilding Commission, in order to listen to the views of these stakeholders, conduct further reflection on the root causes of armed conflicts, and consider issues that could lead to joint action or declarations;

23. Encourage the issuance of joint reports (General Assembly and Security Council) on conflict prevention;

24. Ensure collaboration between the Security Council Ad-Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa and the General Assembly Group of Friends on Conflict Prevention;

25. Support peace building processes that involve a range of measures targeted to reducing the risk of relapsing or lapsing into conflict ; As deemed necessary, recommend candidate countries to Peace

Building Commission and request additional support for such countries from the Bretton Woods Institutes;

26. Continue to pay specific attention to the Peacebuilding Commission's efforts, including concerning post-conflict issues ;

28. Retain the format where peace building reports are jointly submitted the Security Council and the General Assembly;

29. Hold open debates to consider the reports on peacebuilding as was done in the cases of Burundi and Sierra Leone.

30. Set up formal mechanisms permitting to systematically draw advice from the Peacebuilding Commission, implement its recommendations and take into account lessons learned.

31. Take into account issues concerning the trafficking of small arms and light weapons, the trafficking of human beings, drugs smuggling or the illicit exploitation of natural resources in preventive diplomacy;

32. Send to the Security Council analyses and recommendations from the ECOSOC subsidiary bodies (such as the Commission on Narcotic Drugs and the Commission on Crime Prevention), on improved use by the Security Council of human rights mechanisms to enhance conflict prevention capacity as well as any other issues with implications for international peace and security.

New York, 21 December 2007

Luc Joseph **OKIO**
Chairman of the Working Group

Annex I

Background paper by the Chair: theme and elements for the Ad Hoc Working Group Seminar on Conflict Prevention in Africa

Background

As the United Nations organ with the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, the Security Council has a key role to play in the prevention of armed conflict. The basis for preventive action by the Security Council is delineated in Chapter VI of the Charter of the United Nations, which stresses the necessity to seek a solution to any dispute of which continuance of a dispute or situation likely to endanger the maintenance of international peace and security. It is based on this understanding that the Security Council, at the Summit level adopted resolution 1625 (2005) on strengthening the effectiveness of the Security Council's role in conflict prevention, particularly in Africa.

Since its adoption, Security Council resolution 1625 (2005) has tangentially influenced the Security Council's work, but there is a general acceptance that gaps remain in implementation of some aspects of the resolution. The Security Council open debate under the Presidency of the Republic of Congo on 28th of August 2007 was aimed at elaborating the elements of a coherent global strategy on conflict prevention. Presidential Statement (S/PRST/2007/31) adopted at the end of the debate noted the need to provide coherence and enhanced coordination (both in terms of policy and operationalization) among all stakeholders involved in conflict prevention, highlighting the determination of the Security Council to strengthen its role in preventing and resolving conflicts. PRST/2007/31 also welcomed the intention of the Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution to hold a seminar expected to contribute to the elaboration of an effective global conflict-prevention strategy.

Overall objectives

In S/RES/1625 (2005), the Security Council recognizes the need to strengthen the important role of the United Nations in the prevention of violent conflicts, the importance of developing effective partnerships and the important role played by civil society, and expresses its determination to strengthen United Nations conflict prevention capacities. Coordination of efforts among all relevant stakeholders is critical for systemic prevention at the global level.

The seminar will focus on systemic and operational levels of conflict prevention and the role of the Security Council in each of them. In particular, it will consider how to better implement Security Council resolution 1625; identify some of the existing gaps; clarify the role of the Security Council vis-à-vis different actors / partners (Member States, United Nations system organizations, Regional Organizations, civil society), and recommend concrete methods to ensure appropriate coordination and coherence among the different stakeholders.

Specifically, the seminar will seek to find answers to the question: **"What more can the Security Council do to prevent the outbreak of conflicts in the first place, particularly in Africa, and hence ease the burden of responding to so many costly crises?"**

Annex II

Summary of the proceedings of the seminar on an effective global conflict prevention strategy in Africa: the role of the Security Council

Opening session

Mr. Luc Joseph Okio, Chargé d'Affaires, Permanent Mission of Congo to the United Nations and Chairperson of the Security Council ad hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa

Mr. Okio opened the Seminar by noting that the African continent, while having immense needs, was falling behind the rest of the world in terms of its development. Armed conflicts in particular, taxed the continents limited resources and adversely affected its chances of achieving the Millennium Development Goals. He noted that conflict prevention and sustainable development thus were mutually reinforcing.

Mr. Okio further noted that the Seminar was the result of a long process based on: Chapter VI of the Charter; the outcome document of the 2005 Summit, which underlined in its paragraph 75, the importance of adopting a coherent and integrated approach to conflict prevention and resolution; Security Council resolution 1366 (2001) by which the Council declared the goal of the armed conflict prevention as an integral part of its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security; GA resolution A/57/337, which stressed the importance of a comprehensive global strategy, including short-term operational measures and long-term structural measures for armed conflict prevention; resolution 1625 (2005) which "stressed the importance of establishing effective comprehensive strategies of conflict prevention, focused on averting negative developments in the security, economic, social and humanitarian sectors and in the field of governance and human rights in countries which are facing crises…";

In enumerating the legislative mandates which gave impetus to the convening of the Seminar, Mr. Okio recalled that in S/PRST/2007/31, the Council supported the comprehensive and global approach, recommended by the Secretary-General in his July 2006 report on the prevention of armed conflict, and suggested effective coordination between and within United Nations Organs, Programmes, Funds and Agencies involved in policy formulation and implementation, which was vital for ensuring better coherence of the existing mechanisms and striking the appropriate balance between peacekeeping operations and preventive activities. Also, the report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (A/52/871 - S/1998/318), had become a subject of an annual review and recommendations by the General Assembly; the latest report of the Secretary-General on the prevention of the armed conflicts (A/60/891), had recommended three approaches, namely, structural, operational and systemic prevention. Mr. Okio cited as being at the heart of "this problem", the need to transform good intentions into concrete actions. The choice of the topic of the Seminar, was therefore, prompted by the incomplete character of the actions on the conflict prevention and the need to rationalize the means of common actions.

Mr. Okio expressed the hope that the Seminar would manage to produce recommendations that would allow: 1) to fill the existing gaps and overcome the fragmented approach, and the wasting of energy and resources; 2) to install effective synergies, adequate to the structural innovations at the United Nations; and 3) to facilitate the emergence of a mechanism comprising the United Nations system as a whole, the Bretton Woods institutions, regional and subregional organizations, private sector and civil society involved in the conflict prevention, clearly indicating the role of the Security Council as a body with the primary responsibility for international peace and security. He noted that in order to be effective, such a mechanism had to be coherent.

Mrs. Margaret Vogt, Deputy-Director, Africa I Division, DPA

While delivering the keynote address on behalf of Mr B Lynn Pascoe, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Mrs. Vogt noted that conflict prevention was a multidimensional task involving a set of political, humanitarian, development and other measures tailored to specific context. As a result, there was the need to develop increasingly multifaceted approaches to prevent conflicts, drawing on the cooperation of many different actors, including Member States, international, regional and sub-regional organizations. In this respect, it was important to ensure that men, women and youth are fully engaged, which would give them an opportunity to share their understanding of the issues, which often

fuelled conflict within their communities, and allow them to participate in developing strategies to overcome the underlying root causes of conflict.

Mrs. Vogt underlined the central role played by the Department of Political Affairs in promoting political solutions to disputes or situations that might endanger international peace and security. In this regard, she listed the several initiatives undertaken by DPA: Providing political guidance and oversight to five special political missions; Working to strengthen the UN's good offices and mediation role; launching the Mediation Support Unit and a series of pilot activities designed to enhance the quality of support and expertise available to UN and UN supported mediation efforts; and embarking on a joint effort with UNDP to provide strategic guidance to UN Resident Coordinators and UN Country Teams. She cited the LRA affected areas of Northern Uganda and the Great Lakes region, as examples of where DPA continued to work with the Security Council towards successful prevention of conflict in Africa. In conclusion, she stated that the Secretary-General's recent proposal to strengthen DPA were meant to enhance its capacity in early warning and conflict prevention, including through the establishment of regional offices.

Ambassador Lila H. Ratsifandrihamanana, Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations

Ambassador Ratsifandrihamanana praised the initiative behind the Seminar, coming as it did at the time when Member States were insistent on reforming working methods of the Security Council and called for the coordination of the actions and the competences and for the rationalization of the maintenance of peace. It was understood that conflict prevention, in a strict sense, did not exactly fall under the mandate of the Security Council. In a broader sense, conflict prevention involved different aspects from discerning the initial symptoms, which could degenerate into a confrontation, to the return to a normalcy. The lines between prevention, reconstruction, settlement and post-conflict peacebuilding were not always obvious, as it was not always easy to determine when a conflict started and when it ended, or when peacekeeping should take over from political efforts.

She noted that the African continent in particular, the nature of conflicts had changed, with fewer interstate conflicts now being associated with border disputes or invasion by external forces. Today the conflicts were increasingly internal, and mostly linked to electoral disputes, internal rebellion, or seizure of power by force. The way conflicts were dealt with had also changed, with the focus shifting to the prevention through promotion of the culture of peace, good governance, power-sharing, the rule of law, human rights, transparency of the elections, etc.

The African Union's Peace and Security architecture, comprising the Peace and Security Council, the Panel of the Wise, the African Continental Early Warning System, the African Standby Force, was directed to this goal, as did such instruments as the Declaration on Unconstitutional changes of Government; the African Charter of Elections and Democracy, the African Charter of Human and People Rights. The African Union was convinced that the consolidation of democracy through free, transparent and fair elections constituted one of the prerequisites for the installation of democratic governments and the promotion of good governance. To this effect, AU electoral observation missions had been sent to several African countries. The AU Commission had also promoted the AU Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption, with the 5th Global Forum on Fighting Corruption and Safeguarding Integrity in April 2007 in Johannesburg, South Africa, being a landmark occasion for launching a wide research initiative focused on the scope of corruption across the Continent. The promotion and protection of human rights was pursued through increased advocacy and domestication of the provisions of the various international and regional treaties on human rights, as well as the strengthening of the African Union human rights mechanisms. Finally, the AU Commission had started mapping governance initiatives across the Continent to identify the role of all partners active in governance and to pave the way for stronger cooperation, partnerships and alignment of governance interventions. The Resource Centre for Democracy, Governance and Human Rights was in the process of introducing new services such as Digital Library, the African Virtual Library and Information Network (AVLIN) and the Press Display (a Web-based portal that provides same-day access to more than 450 newspapers and magazines from around the world in 38 languages).

Ambassador Ratsifandrihamanana stressed that conflict prevention would never be effective without the political will. However, political will was not a one-time achievement, but a dynamic one, which had to be nurtured and rewarded. Experiences such as the Rwanda Genocide and the on-going situation in Somalia had shown that early-warning systems had not always been responded to, with the lack of adequate early responses promoting the escalation of hostilities. Furthermore, the most credible and immediate opportunities for early peacemaking might be lost because of the failure to provide adequate and early response, resulting in a long, tedious, complex and expensive peace processes at the later stage.

Mr. Patrick Hayford, Director and Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Special Adviser on Africa
Mr. Hayford underlined that the Security Council had an important role to play in conflict prevention, hence the usefulness and potential relevance of outcome of the Seminar. He noted that one of the mandates of OSAA was to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General critical issues affecting Africa, particularly interrelated issues of peace and development. In this context, he stated that OSAA had held a series of expert group meetings and conferences to focus attention and to create a dialogue on issues such as the illegal exploitation of natural resources and their role in conflict in Africa, youth unemployment in Africa, and on issues relating to DDR and stability in Africa. In this regard, a conference was held in Sierra Leone and another in the DRC, the purpose being to enable African stakeholders in DDR and related issues to promote a dialogue amongst themselves.

Mr. Hayford referred to the 1998 Secretary-General's report on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa. He noted that the report has been followed up annually by a process of review of its recommendations. The Secretary-General has also decided to start a strategic review process of the recommendations of that report, which has been discussed annually in the General Assembly. He further stated that the Secretary-General's objective was to find out if it would be useful to have a more systematic arrangement for coordinating action, monitoring progress and sharing lessons learned. The process and its outcome, hopefully, would contribute to work in conflict prevention and the general effort in support of Africa's own initiative.

Session I: ***Cooperation between the Security Council and UN system organizations***

How can the Security Council better support the Secretary-General's role in preventive diplomacy, including his good offices and mediation efforts? How can the interaction between the Security Council and the UN system in the area of conflict prevention be enhanced? What best practice cases do we have in which the Security Council and the UN system have collaborated on conflict prevention initiatives?

Mrs. Margaret Vogt, Deputy-Director, Africa I Division, DPA (Facilitator)
Mrs. Vogt introduced that panelists for the session and invited them to make their respective presentation on the item under discussion and related issues.

Mr. Jan Egeland, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General On Matters Relating to the Prevention and Resolution of Conflicts
Mr. Egeland noted that very little resources has been devoted to conflict prevention, however, there was the need to recognize that progress has been made, and that recently, the Security Council has been better in focusing on preventive action and long-term efforts. He stated that there were 50% fewer conflicts now than in 1989. He underlined that no other continent has made more progress than Africa which has emerged from being "the war continent from the 1980's" to become "the continent of peace efforts and peace agreement." Nevertheless, he was of the view that a number of things needed to be done, based on the following concrete lessons:

- The need to have comprehensive alliances of good actors from the national scene, regional/subregional and international scene, led by the United Nations;

- The need for "lead nations" to energetically mobilize interests, efforts and resources;

- The Security Council is often too reactive rather than proactive;

- Good Offices have been under resourced, including the humanitarian and peace keeping side;

- The need to recognize conflict prevention as a long-term systemic effort. ("Somalia has been a "stop go effort" for 20 years");

- The need to recognize that preventive action will not be uncontroversial; and

- The need to listen to early warning system, e.g. Darfur.

Mr. Francis Deng, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Matters Relating to the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities

Mr. Deng identified the root causes of the conflict in Africa, which included the following: the colonial framework of unity in diversity, disparity and divisiveness; the ambivalent struggle for independence; the emergence of identity-based competition for power, resources, services and development opportunities; the Cold War bi-polar country mechanisms and the distorted perception of national and regional conflicts as proxy-wars of the superpowers; the end of the Cold War and the withdrawal of the strategic and ideological interests of the Super powers' involvement; the weakening of the state and the increase in internal conflicts; and the resulting crisis of identity that is reflected in several forms, namely: 1) Divisive self-identification that does not always reflect realities of what is shared; 2) imposition of the identity framework on the national framework of diversity; 3) the inevitable result of exclusion, marginalization and discrimination; 4) anecdotes from around the world.

Mr. Deng noted that addressing the causes of conflict required the creation of a normative framework, and constructive management of diversity to promote inclusiveness, equality, and the enjoyment of the rights of citizenship on an equitable basis. In this regard, he stated that conflict prevention would always require the role required a third party mediator who would be accepted by both or all sides as an honest broker and through whose good offices the parties could make difficult compromises.

As regards cooperation between the Security Council and the UN system, Mr. Deng suggested that the Council might consider requesting briefings from staff who work in the field, below the level of the SRSG. Also, the Security Council should provide the UN system with greater scope and leeway to present the Council with information as they see fit. He proposed regular visits by the Council to the field; and noted that the Council could do more by requiring the UN system to present information holistically.

On the Council's cooperation with the African Union, Mr. Deng emphasized that the involvement of the Security Council and the African Union in any situation involving a country raises the stakes with regard to concerns about sovereignty. He expressed concern about recent practice, in which the Security Council and the African Union kept countries off their agenda for too long, thus leading to situations that were so "intractable that only the heaviest hand can find a solution". In this respect, he made the following suggestions: The Security Council and AU should develop additional tools that allow them to be present in countries much earlier; The Security Council and AU should look at successful efforts, and draw lessons; and make UN tools, such as Secretary-General's good offices and expertise of the UN agencies, available to the regions, including the AU.

Mr. E. Eloho Otobo, Director, Strategic Planning Peacebuilding Support Office

Mr. Otobo viewed peacebuilding as involving a range of measures targeted at reducing the risk of countries "relapsing" or "lapsing" into conflict. He noted that a number of African countries had relapsed into conflict, and that quite a number of countries on the agenda of the Security Council belonged to that category. He contended that fifty percent of countries emerging from conflict tended to relapse into war within five years of their coming out. He argued for the strengthening of the prominence of peacebuilding in the activities of Security Council as an integral part of global preventive strategy. In this regard, he cited Burundi and Sierra Leone both of which had been referred to the Peacebuilding Commission by the Security Council as good examples of how peacebuilding could contribute to the Council's preventive strategies.

Mr. Otobo noted the Peacebuilding Commission had not only expanded the instruments available to the UN in dealing with conflict prevention, but had also strengthened the "reservoir" of resources that were available to the Security Council. Furthermore, he observed that enhanced cooperative relationship between the Security Council and Peacebuilding Commission would lead to the improvement of the capacity of the UN system at large to handle on a special crisis basis and avoid countries relapsing into conflict. While pointing out that the UN was investing close to thirty times more resources into peacekeeping than in peacebuilding, he stressed that the Council's preventive work in Africa could benefit from applying an approach that combined intensified commitment to maintaining peace and security with an active support for peacebuilding, and noted that this would in some ways, be consistent with the notion of structural prevention.

Mr. Ngonlardje Mbaidjol, Director of the Office of the High Commission for Human Rights

Mr. Mbaidjol noted that lack of respect for human rights and human dignity remained the fundamental reason why the world peace is so precarious and prosperity unequally shared. He stressed that the practice of the Security Council was evolving significantly with regard to its establishment of international tribunals, as well as referrals of cases to the International criminal court (ICC). In addition, he noted that the concept of security was also evolving as the Council had sought in recent years to integrate human rights into its efforts for conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping and peace-building. These actions demonstrated that through practice, the Council's work was assuming significant human rights dimension within the framework of its responsibilities for the maintenance of international peace and security.

While pointing out that the Security Council could use and therefore needed better access to human rights information, Mr. Mbaidjol noted that the activities of the Special Procedure Mechanisms provided opportunities for useful and constructive cooperation with Security Council, with a view in particular, to informing on human rights situations in specific countries and suggesting ways to incorporate human rights into country or thematic resolutions adopted by the Security Council to advance the practical implementation of UN action and support.

He urged the Security Council could consider the following: (i) Request periodic briefings by the High Commissioner for Human Rights on human rights situation in countries and on thematic subjects under consideration; (ii) Request "Guidance/briefing notes" from OHCHR when it considers country situations or specific themes. (iii) Request "Country profiles" including joint analysis of all mandate holders at the start of each Council Presidency based on the agenda of the Security Council; (iv) Mandate-holders could at the request of Council share information on good practices and lessons learned from their engagement with countries and inform Security Council of the extent to which countries have been cooperating with the mechanisms and following on their recommendations; (v) At the beginning of each Presidency, mandate holders could inform the President of the Council on fact-finding missions planned during that period as well as about their findings at the end of their missions (depending on the agenda); and (vi) Use the forthcoming Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the HRC to fuel the information network of the Security Council for its work on prevention.

Ms. Sally Fegan-Wyles, Director, United Nations Development Group

Referring to statements by previous speakers in which they indicated that routinely the UN was on the ground before, during and after conflicts, Ms. Fegan-Wyles noted the availability of tools required for assessing risks and urged their being used routinely. She noted, however, that information often available to one group of actors was not always available to others. She underlined that the need for a holistic approach to conflict prevention and post-conflict recovery should by now be well understood, but that the architect of the UN did not always help. On a technical level, she emphasized that different parts of the UN system were trying to work together to correct the "dysfunctionality" caused by the structure of the UN. In this regard, she noted that some progress has been made, particularly by the World Bank and UN Development Group and the establishment of a Peacebuilding Support Office (PBSO). She concluded by stating that the Security Council could look at the architecture and dysfunctionality of the United Nations, by responding to multifaceted sets of issues with a response mechanism that focused on one set of issues at a time.

Mr. Tariq Al Ansari, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Qatar

Mr. Tariq Al Ansari noted that there had not been a proactive role in handling conflicts, and agreed with previous speakers who spoke for the need of the Security Council to be more proactive and in the same time to take into account the respect for the sovereignty of the country or the countries, besides the need for confidence building between the parties, in particular with the specific country where the conflict takes place. While attaching importance for dealing and addressing the root causes of conflicts in Africa he called for increased cooperation between the Security Council and the African Union and other regional and sub-regional organizations in dealing with conflicts and in the maintenance of peace and security. He suggested that the Security Council should adopt more resolutions under Chapter VIII mandates.

H.E. Ms. Karen Pierce, Deputy Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom

Highlighting the involvement of the Security Council, Ambassador Pierce stated that the Council should better support subregional and regional organization, including the AU. She underlined that all UN organs should work in partnership with the Security Council, especially in areas were conflict is brewing, and suggested more use of the Aria Formula meetings. In concluding, she expressed support for Chapter VIII resolutions in which peacekeeping forces would have more robust mandates in defending themselves and civilians.

H.E. Mr. Jean-Pierre Lacroix, Deputy Permanent Representative of France

Ambassador Lacroix suggested that there was the need to strengthen conflict prevention mechanisms, as peacekeeping operation interventions were now more complicated. On the role of the Security Council, he emphasized the ability of the Security Council to work together and suggested that the Security Council should work more collaboratively and better with other UN components. In this regard, he suggested that the Secretariat should poll diverse capacities, expertise, administrative resources with regional organizations. Moreover, the Security Council should play a more active role in preventive activities and consider how it could better assemble the capacity to look at the root causes of conflicts. The Council also stood to benefit from more Secretary-General's briefings especially on cross-cutting issues. Finally, he called for a wider use of the Arria Formula as well as the need for the UN to study how to help Member States to address the challenges of scarce resource.

Mr. Hassan, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Sudan

Mr. Hassan made three proposals for defining a global strategy for conflict prevention, namely: the Security Council should prioritize political action in all cases; the Security Council should take into consideration the developmental and economic aspects, as well as all aspects of capacity-building and regional organization, since conflicts come from lack of development; and cautioned on processes that had no respect for sovereignty as guarantee of national primacy. In this context he stressed that national sovereignty must be the priority for the United Nations, and particularly the Security Council, since the respect of national sovereignty guaranteed national primacy in resolving conflicts.

H.E. Mr. Sylvester Rowe, Deputy Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone

In response to Jan Egeland's comments on the need for the Security Council to be proactive and the need to listen to early warnings, Ambassador Sylvester Rowe stated that early warnings are not always evident, as there were conflicting perceptions of what constituted early warnings. In this regard, he highlighted the need to look at the multiple dimensions of conflicts, and the use of Secretary-General's good offices to gain a better understanding of conflicts. He also cautioned on the idea of underestimating or overestimating the seriousness of a problem. He flagged prevailing concerns about the impact of Security Council's involvement in bringing a conflict the situation to the limelight and the attending fears of exacerbating and exaggerating the situation. In his view, the Secretary-General's good offices should help to determine the nature of the problem. There was also the need to look at what constituted early warning before the Security Council embarked on dealing with this issue.

Mr. Alfred Moussoti, First Counselor Permanent Mission of Gabon

Mr. Moussoti expressed support for what the panelists had said regarding a comprehensive approach to conflict prevention, given the multifaceted nature of the reasons of the causes of conflict. He stated that as a principal organ for international peace and security, the Security Council could take the lead in mobilizing resources for conflict prevention. He stressed the need to reinforce the capacity of regional organizations noting that specifically occur to the Council to use regional and sub-regional mechanisms for conflict prevention. He noted that the Security Council had used missions by sending emissaries to talk to the parties to the conflict before a crisis developed into an armed conflict. He emphasized that such missions should have a strong and clear mandates from the Security Council to be conveyed to the parties to a dispute. He also proposed the routine use of the good offices of those influential members of the Council who had influence and leverage on the parties to the conflict and who were seriously committed to peace.

H.E. Mr. Ibrahima Sow, Permanent Representative of Guinea

Ambassador Sow commented on the role of the Secretary-General and the Security Council in their responsibilities in conflict prevention. In his view, the channels for peaceful settlement of disputes were enshrined in Chapter VI of the Charter and pertained mainly, to mediation, negotiation, inquiries, arbitration, judicial remedies. These clearly reflected the major and active role the Secretary-General played in preventing conflicts. As regards the important role of the Security Council, he noted the following: that it promoted peaceful settlement pursuant to regional agreements or through the regional bodies; it also suggested procedures or methods to ensure that the peaceful approach prevailed.

Mr. El SA Nawy, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Egypt

Mr. El SA Nawy raised two specific points, namely; the provision enshrined in Article 24 called for the annual report of Security Council to be submitted to the General Assembly. In this regard, he stated that frequently, the annual report of the Council did not include any substantive issues but merely catalogued meetings and documents of the Council. This approach, he said, reflected an absence of transparency in the way the Security Council dealt with the General Assembly,

and underscored the need for the Council to reform its working methods. Secondly, he underlined that the General Assembly was the organ which represented the general membership in the organization and not the Council.

Mr. Jean-Francis Zinsou, Minister Counselor, Mission of Benin
Mr. Zinsou noted that there were structural and operational issues that went beyond the mandate of ECOSOC and its interaction with the Security Council. In this regard, he proposed the establishment of a forum, which would include the Security Council, ECOSOC, UN Agencies and the Development Group that would deal with such matters. He proposed that forum could consider on a regular basis, the report and analysis on conflict situations submitted by all the different UN agencies and bodies that had expertise on the situation on the ground. Such an arrangement would provide a systemic assessment, which would allow the Security Council to focus its action more specifically to dealing with the root causes of conflict.

H.E. Mr. Hamid Chabar, Deputy Permanent Representative of Morocco
Ambassador Chabar noted that it was necessary to identify a basis for consensus on conflict prevention as military spending as well as arm trade had increased over the past ten years. Accordingly, he proposed that the UN to act on the basis of operational dimensions and early warnings, in order to ensure that existing conflicts did not spill over into other states. With regards to the reform of Department of Political Affairs (DPA), he suggested that the UN should look at the ultimate objectives of the DPA restructuring process rather than focusing on the number of posts to be created.

H.E. Mr. Jean-Marc Hoscheit, Permanent Representative of Luxembourg
Ambassador Hoscheit stressed the need to continue reflecting on the nature of inter-action and systemic coherence, the effective management of conflicts, as well as the need to provide for the framework of constructive management of identity conflict and the management of diversity. He stressed that security, development, human rights and the rule of law needed to interact, since he considered them as the foundation of the concept underpinning prevention. As regards the system wide coherence, he noted that it was essential to adopt an approach that addressed all facets of conflict. While emphasizing the need to give more attention to early warning, he stated that the UN needed to have the information and the means to carry out effective knowledge management. He supported Mr. Deng's position on the need to provide for the framework of constructive management of identity conflict and the management of diversity.

Mr. El Hasji Seye, Second Counselor, Permanent Mission of Senegal
Mr. Seye noted that it was necessary to define the mandate of the different bodies of the United Nations in the area of conflict prevention. He echoed the necessity to take a proactive approach. He emphasized that the representatives of the UN Country teams should play a role in providing early warning, which would also prevent a humanitarian crisis. Finally, he stressed the need to provide an early warning system, which would assist the Security Council in its proactively playing a role in conflict prevention as the maintenance of peace and security.

Mrs. Margaret Vogt, Deputy-Director, Africa I Division, DPA (Facilitator)
In summarizing the discussions for the Session I, the facilitator, Mrs. Vogt recalled Mr. Egeland setting the tone by stating that while prevention of conflicts was the main purpose of the UN, very little resources were being devoted to prevention. Nonetheless, progress had been made as there were 50% fewer conflicts now than in 1989. She noted Prof. Deng had highlighted the symmetry between internal displacements, refugee flows and deeper conflicts, since the former were symptoms. He had also catalogued the nature of conflicts, what needed to be done, who was best qualified to do so, highlighted that some situations may require longer-term efforts and the need to pay close attention to early warning information. With regards to peacebuilding, she recalled Mr. Otobo disclosing that there was a tendency for conflict situations to lapse or relapse, with fifty percent of countries that came out of conflicts relapsing. There was need to strengthen peacebuilding as prevention strategy, in the realization that peacekeeping operations attracted resources that were thirty times what was devoted to peacebuilding.

Turning to the human rights angle of conflict prevention, she recalled Mr. Mbaidjol stating that human rights was the third of three interlinked pillars, along with economic and social development, and peace and security, on which all the work of the United Nations must be based. The Security Council needed better access to human rights information and the know-how to incorporate human rights into its conflict prevention efforts. She recalled his saying that the concept of security was evolving as efforts were being made to integrate human rights, peacebuilding and peacekeeping into prevention. She highlighted the role of Special Mechanisms and Procedures could help in enhancing prevention and that the Security Council might wish to consider requesting periodic briefings and guidance notes on special situations.

Mrs. Vogt said that Ms. Sally Fegan-Wyles had asked a critical question relating to identifying the root causes on conflicts before the conflicts occurred and how to address them during and after. The holistic approach to prevention and management of conflicts had also been emphasized even though the dysfunctionality created by the architecture of the UN had been recognized. Nonetheless, a comprehensive alliance led by the UN was making efforts to better coordinate the activities of sub-regions and local actors. It was also recognized that the Council was still too reactive rather than proactive due to conservative and in-built caution. New types of conflicts, including those that were climate induced, needed to be looked at more critically.

She noted that representative of Qatar had, inter alia, stressed the importance of greater prevention; need to be more effective in dealing with the root causes of conflicts, regional organizations and strengthening the "political tool box". The representative of the United Kingdom stressed the need to do more than deploy PKOs, the need to discuss more how to activate the Council; look more closely at relations between the Council and the AU PSC, while undertaking more discussions on matter relating Chapter VIII of the Charter. Mrs. Vogt recalled the representative of France stressing that conflict prevention was always difficult; the need for better collaboration on prevention and reinforcing the political imperatives as well as addressing the root of conflicts. The suggestion had also been made that the Council should consider how it could better assemble the capacity to look at the root causes of conflicts, why noting that the Council may stood to benefit from more Secretary-General's briefings especially on cross-cutting issues. Finally, a greater use of Arria Formula was advocated, as was the need for the UN to study how to help Member States to address the challenges of scarce resource.

Mrs. Vogt noted that Sudan's representative had cautioned on processes that had no respect for sovereignty as guarantee of national primacy, while the representative of Sierra Leone had highlighted the need to look at the multiple dimensions of conflicts, and the use of good offices to gain a better understanding of conflicts. She recalled that the representative of Gabon had stressed the need to reinforce the capacity of regional organizations and that Guinea's representative had also highlighted the Secretary General's role and his responsibility under Chapter 6 to raise and bring issues before the Council. In rounding up she recalled the representative of Benin underlining the need to overcome and resolve structural problems relating to the ways the Council, ECOSOC and the development groups addressed the management of the root causes of conflicts. She drew attention to the Permanent representative of Luxembourg, stressing the need to continue reflecting on the nature of inter-action and systematic coherence, the effective management of conflicts, as well as the need to provide for the framework of constructive management of identity conflict and the management of diversity.

Session II: ***Opportunities for cooperation between the Security Council, the African Union and other Partners***

a. ***How can partnerships be established and developed? How could the Council fully use information and early-warning on situations from field-based organizations? How could the Council enhance its support to partners engaged in the prevention or resolution of conflict, especially regional organizations?***

Dr. Kwesi Aning, Kofi Annan Centre, Accra, Ghana (Facilitator)
Dr. Aning introduced that panelists for the session and invited them to make their respective presentations on the item under discussion and related issues.

H.E. Mr. João Manuel Guerra Salgueiro, Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations, EU Presidency
Ambassador Salgueiro noted the extensive set of EU instruments available for cooperation with the United Nations in general and the Security Council in particular. He drew attention first of to EU special representatives as an example of the EU's global involvement in conflict prevention, conflict resolution and crisis management, in places like the Great Lakes region and the Sudan. He noted that until 2006, there was the EU Rapid Reaction Mechanism, which provided focused response to crisis and potential crisis situations in third countries, including a number of operations in Africa. In 2006, the EU also developed the EU Partnership for Peace, Security and Development in the Horn of Africa, thus providing a comprehensive approach to conflict prevention, tackling the root causes of conflict and instability, as well as establishing political framework for regional initiatives. He disclosed that in January 2007, the Rapid Reaction Mechanism was replaced by the Instrument for Stability, which streamlined EU response to crisis to the short and medium-term (up to 24 months). On the longer-term, the EU had the African Peace Facility meant to provide support to African organizations and

assist in building their capacity in peace operations, including through flexible funding. Stressing the importance of capacity-building, Ambassador Salgueiro highlighted the EU involvement in establishing the AU Standby Force, AU subregional offices, as well as the Continental Early Warning System for the AU and subregional organizations.

Turning to the future, Ambassador Salgueiro said the EU planned to adopt at the upcoming EU-African Summit in Lisbon, the Joint EU-Africa Strategy and the Action Plan for implementation of the Africa-EU strategic partnership. It envisioned several priorities in the area of peace and security, like dialogue on the causes of conflict, strengthening exchange of information and operationalizing the African peace and security architecture. A concept paper was being drafted to make all the different instruments more coherent. Ambassador Salgueiro listed a number of suggestions for the EU cooperation with the UN: 1) ensure more frequent dialogue on maintenance of peace and security, using the structure of the UN Secretariat and the Security Council; 2) enhance cooperation on aspects of multidimensional peacekeeping, including police, rule of law and security sector reform; 3) establish specific coordination and cooperation in crisis situations where the UN and the EU were jointly involved; 4) organize systematic joint EU-UN lessons-learned exercise for joint EU-UN operations; 5) reinforce the EU participation in the Peacebuilding Commission, drawing on the EU experience as the leading global player and provider of funds, tools and means for peacebuilding activities.

H.E. Mr. Fernando Marzo Valenzuela, Head of the Delegation of the European Commission to the UN

Ambassador Valenzuela, said the EU and Africa were enhancing their relationship towards a new joint strategic partnership at equal level, due to be adopted at the Lisbon EU-Africa Summit. The African Peace and Security architecture featured as a priority in this partnership, under the principle "AU ownership; EU partnership". It benefited from the EU ability to draw on a wide range of coordinated instruments – political dialogue; peace support operations and various financial instruments – at all stages of the conflict cycle, as well as on its ability to build bridges with the longer-term efforts of development. The joint programming of EC development efforts at country level, and the political dialogue that it promoted with the partner country, were central to the EC efforts in conflict prevention. It addressed the sources and consequences of fragility in this dialogue and contributed to building effective country-owned strategies. EC established Horizontal facilities with its African partners to support the Peace and Security architecture at regional and sub regional level: The European Development Fund's (EDF) African Peace facility supported African peace support operations (most of them in close link or interaction with UNSC resolutions), as well as AU capacities. EDF support also played a key role in the institutional reinforcement of the AU Commission, while its Regional programmes tackled peace and security capacities, such as early warning systems, at subregional level. A new facility, the Instrument for Stability, had come into play in 2007 to provide rapid and flexible response to urgent peace and security needs (mediation; confidence building measures; support to rule of law, DDR, transitional justice, etc.), with actions taken this year in a number of African countries, often in concert with the UN efforts.

Ambassador Valenzuela drew two lessons from the EC experience so far. First, capacity-building at all levels was crucial to any progress in the African peace and security architecture. African-owned capacities had to be reinforced in a sustainable way, which took time and required medium-term and long-term planning. The UN ten-year capacity plan was the right approach in this regard. Transaction costs and administrative burden for African institutions had to be minimized, which required greater coherence and coordination between international partners; existing coordination mechanisms had to be improved and move beyond the current useful exchange of information towards the concrete search for coherence and synergies. The coordination between the AU and subregional organizations also had to be strengthened to harmonize efforts on the African Peace and Security Architecture, e.g. on the Continental Early Warning System (CEWS). More predictable and sustainable funding was also required. The political support of the UN Security Council was a key factor in all these issues. Second, there was a need for the Security Council to improve its access to the wealth of information and analysis on conflict prevention that field-based institutions possessed. The network of European Commission Delegations managing assistance in most if not all African countries, interacted much with their UN partners at country level. To mirror this cooperation in the field, the UN Secretariat and EU headquarters had entered in the past four years into regular desk-to-desk dialogue on conflict prevention, exchanging analysis but also, in many cases, coordinating action and cooperating in the field. He was of the view that the Security Council could explore how to benefit from such dialogue. The planned development of the UN Secretariat's conflict-prevention capacity should also provide resources for more systematic liaison with field-based institutions and relaying the resulting information and analysis to the Security Council and other UN bodies.

H.E. Ms. Lila Hanitra Ratsifandrihamanana, Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations
Ambassador Ratsifandrihamanana stressed the pivotal role of the AU Peace and Security architecture, including AU Peace and Security Council and the Panel of the Wise. Existing cooperation in conflict prevention was reflected in the meeting between the UN Security Council and the PSC in Addis Ababa in July 2007, as well as in the exchange of missions and in cooperation and coordination between the AU Commission and the UN Secretariat.

AU Peace and Security architecture also included the African Standby Force (ASF). It was in the process of being established with the assistance of the DPKO, which had sent a team to Addis Ababa to work with the Operations Support Division of the AU Commission. Another component of this architecture, the Continental Early Warning System, had commenced operations and the Panel of the Wise had officially opened and was functioning. Regarding the cooperation and coordination between the AU Commission and the UN Secretariat, she noted that the latter had recently made recommendations to the Secretary-General.

Dr. A. Sarjoh Bah Centre on International Cooperation, New York University
Dr. Sarjoh Bah stressed that any partnership between the UN and African regional and sub-regional entities should be anchored on the principles of comparative advantage; complementarity and ownership and should not be done at the expense of African entities. The growing cooperation between the UN and AU in Darfur and elsewhere provided a strong imperative for a move away from the current *ad hoc* approach to a more structured partnership. He saw the question of the Security Council reform as part of the broader process of defining the partnership, and wondered what impact a reformed Security Council would have on its conflict prevention efforts in Africa in particular, and in the maintenance of international peace and security in general. In his view, a reformed Council with permanent African members would guarantee "continuity" as they would ensure consistent and sustained engagement by the Council instead of the current configuration which promoted *ad hoc* engagements, often with less optimal results.

Dr. Bah contended that the Security Council and its African partners, like the AU Peace and Security Council and decision-making organs of the Regional Economic Communities (REC), had to explore options of establishing structured mechanisms to ensure effective, efficient and coherent coordination between them. In this regard, there was a crucial need to factor in the different political dynamics and imperatives in these institutions. For example, while members of the PSC and RECs did not have a veto, the same could not be said of the Security Council, where quite often the national interests of the permanent members shaped the Council's posture on critical issues. The joint attempt by ECOWAS, the AU and UN to resolve the conflict in Cote d'Ivoire was an interesting example of a trilateral interaction that could provide useful lessons for future conflict prevention initiatives involving the Security Council and its African partners.

Mr. Bah also raised the issue of providing resources, including but not limited to finances, to support conflict prevention efforts in Africa. He noted that current financial arrangements were inadequate despite the fact that conflict prevention was far cheaper than conflict management in both human and material terms. The UN and other peacekeeping platforms spent billions of dollars on peace operations that might not have been necessary if the right conflict prevention tools had been applied at the right time. The EU's African Peace Facility could serve as a model for financing conflict prevention initiatives undertaken by the AU and RECs. The Security Council should explore other means of complementing the carrots and sticks at the disposal of its African partners. The provision of predictable resources would add more "juice to the carrots" while making the "sticks" more robust.

Mr. Hassan Hassan, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Sudan
Acknowledging the complementarity of roles between the United Nations and regional organizations in general, and more specifically collaboration between the AU Peace and Security Council and the UN Security Council, Mr. Hassan stressed the need to fully operationalize Chapter VIII of the UN Charter since it would significantly enhance the effectiveness of cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations. While emphasizing the importance of investing in capacity-building, Mr. Hassan cautioned against those arguments suggesting that Chapter VIII mandates could not be utilized due to the lack of experience of regional organizations. He characterized such notions as pretentious. The experience in the fields of conflict prevention and crisis management, he stated, could be gained only through a process of "learning by doing". In addition, the he cautioned that any cooperation between the UN and regional organizations, particularly in the field of conflict prevention, should be undertaken in the context of full respect of the sovereignty of countries concerned. Finally, he said that the lack of permanent representation of African countries on the Security Council continued to undermine the possibility of achieving effective cooperation between the UN and regional organizations. Considering that most items on the agenda of the Security Council related to the African continent, Mr. Hassan opined that

a genuine reform of the Council itself, taking into account the legitimate aspirations of Africa, could no longer be postponed.

Mr. Sidharto Suryo-di-Puro, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Indonesia

Noting that the African Union provided an important contribution to improving the maintenance of international peace and security in Africa, the representative of Mr. Suryo-di-Puro called for an enhanced cooperation between the AU and the Security Council. He stated that Chapter VIII of the UN Charter could be beneficial in the process of strengthening the relation between the UN Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council.

Mr. Suryo-di-Puro also observed that an improved cooperation between the AU and the UN could set a precedent for enhanced cooperation between the UN and other regional organizations around the world. Recognizing that resources were in the hands of Member States rather than in those of the Security Council or the Secretariat, he inquired about possible ways for the Security Council to assist in addressing the issue of scarce resources for conflict prevention.

Ms. Mourabit, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Morocco

Noting that the cooperation between the UN and regional organizations was an increasingly relevant factor in today's world, Ms. Mourabit emphasized the successful achievements recently attained by a number of regional organizations. The African Union, for instance, possessed relevant capacities in the area of peacemaking and, to a lesser degree, in conflict prevention. However, she cautioned that the African Union could be successful in its preventive action only to the extent that it was provided with adequate means and resources. In order to further strengthen the cooperation between the UN and regional organizations, Ms. Mourabit stressed that such partnership should be built within the United Nations framework on a multidimensional level. To this end, it would be critical to avoid rigid structures and to create "light institutions", encompassing, for instance, periodic high-level meetings as well as pragmatic and targeted consultations. Morocco, she said, believed that coordinated action between officials of the UN and the AU, such as joint briefings of the respective Special Envoys before the Security Council could be beneficial. Stressing the importance of moving from a culture of "reaction" to one of "prevention", Ms. Mourabit noted that since subregional organizations were usually not associated with any preconception of mistrust, they could play an important role in ensuring subregional stability and provide new ways of approaching conflict prevention. By adopting a multidimensional approach, engaging also in the economic and development spheres, subregional organizations could contribute to conflict prevention.

Mr. Tete Antonio, Minister Counselor, Permanent Mission of Angola

Mr. Antonio commended the work of the Security Council Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa, as a significant instrument to "hear the voice of Africa" and present to the Security Council, concrete proposals for preventive activities. However, he stated that specific attention should be given ascertaining whether the Security Council puts in practice the proposals and recommendations by the Ad hoc Working Group. This follow-up action was of particular importance, since the recommendations were usually made at the end of the Chair's mandate period and tenure on the Security Council. Re-emphasizing the need to take into account the voice of the African Continent, Mr. Antonio stressed the need for a more robust UN presence on the ground, adding that African research institutions and universities could be extremely useful resource and that it would be beneficial to hear and benefit from their field perspectives. He remarked that unless the Security Council was able to listen and understand the views of the different stakeholders, especially those on the ground, the Council would not be entirely successful in its conflict prevention aspirations and role.

Mr. Tariq Al Ansari, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Qatar

Referring to the upcoming EU-AU Summit in Lisbon, the Mr. Ansari sought clarification on what Dr. Bah meant when he advocated a "balanced and mutual" partnership between the two organizations.

H.E. Mr. Iya Tidjani, Deputy Permanent Representative of Cameroon

Recalling that the African Continent was the area most affected by armed conflicts, Ambassador Tidjani called for a more effective partnership between the AU and the UN/Security Council in the maintenance of peace and security. He commended the work of the Security Council Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa, as a forum for establishing proper coordination and cooperation between the AU and the UN when dealing with conflicts in Africa. Ambassador Tidjani emphasized that Security Council missions were a valuable tool in the field of preventive diplomacy, as they allowed the Council to gather first-hand information and engage with all stakeholders of the ground. He was of the view that, those missions could also serve to improve the Security Council's relations with regional and sub-regional organizations. Ambassador Tidjani added that, taking into account the lessons learned in Darfur, further

consideration should be given to developing a tripartite cooperation among the UN, the AU and the EU in prevention and settlement of conflicts.

Responding to the question posed by the representative of Qatar, Dr. Bah made a reference to Zimbabwe in specifying that any kind of partnership between the European Union and the African Union should transcend personalities and instead focus on broader strategic issues. He cited three key points which should guide the establishment of a durable and valuable partnership: mutual respect; identification of mutual objectives; and agreement on mutual strategies to meet the identified objectives. Cautioning that an "ad-hoc" approach would not allow for continuity, Dr. Bah highlighted that such a partnership should foresee a concrete mechanism based on a common strategy.

In her final comments, Ambassador Ratsifandrihamanana suggested looking at ways to make the partnership between the United Nations and regional organizations particularly that between the UN and the AU as effective as possible. She noted that Darfur constituted a case in point and proved the viability of such a partnership. However, the realities in Darfur also highlighted the need to engage and cooperate with the authorities of the host country concerned. Emphasizing the importance of information sharing between the two organizations, she encouraged a closer cooperation on the issues of conflict prevention as well as of post-conflict reconstruction. Finally, touching upon the issue of resources, Ms. Ratsifandrihamanana stressed the need to revisit Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, with a view to facilitating the funding of peacekeeping operations undertaken by regional and sub-regional organizations on behalf of the international community.

In his concluding comments, Ambassador Valenzuela underscored the strategic importance of the partnership between the African Union and the European Union, noting that this cooperation also triangulated with the United Nations. Emphasizing that legitimacy derived from universality, he recognized the importance of Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, since only the United Nations could offer legitimacy to actions undertaken on its behalf at the international level. Cooperation between various regional organizations should be encouraged and developed, but ultimately, it was important to keep in mind that the United Nations represented the only body capable of providing such universal legitimacy.

Dr. Kwesi Aning, Kofi Annan Centre, Accra, Ghana (Facilitator)
In closing the session, the facilitator, Dr. Aning, acknowledged that the relationship between the United Nations and regional organizations was becoming increasingly more "layered and dense". He recalled that the increased number of Security Council decisions touching upon the issues of conflict prevention and regional organizations was recognition by the Council of the role that regional organizations were playing in the maintenance of international peace and security. Underlining that the relationship between the United Nations and regional organizations was currently undergoing a unique evolution, he emphasized a number of critical spheres requiring improvement: (i) provide a clearer definition of what was meant by "partnership", including the identification of the type, nature and division of responsibilities between the partners; (ii) take into account lessons learned and, specifically, the need to establish "flexible institutionalization"; (iii) promote sustainable capacity building at all levels in the field of conflict prevention; (iv) adopt a more coherent and coordinated approach in setting up partnerships; and (v) strengthen the partnership between the African Union and external organizations and, at the same time, cooperation among various African sub-regional organizations.

Session III- *Cooperation among UN intergovernmental bodies*

Strengthening the Security Council's interaction with the General Assembly, the ECOSOC, the Peacebuilding Commission and the UN Human Rights mechanism.

H.E. Mr. Marcello Spatafora, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations and Security Council President for the month of December 2007 (Facilitator)
Ambassador Spatafora stressed that interaction between the various UN bodies on conflict prevention was based on the principle that prevention was not the monopoly of one organ, but the shared responsibility of all member states. While "ownership" by members should be at the centre of the UN's conflict prevention strategy, Ambassador Spatafora stressed that each organ should do what it was best at and should strive to complement others' policies and activities. Currently, the General Assembly was failing to deliver on conflict prevention, hence, the Council had to step in. However, the effectiveness of the Council's efforts rested on its ability to win the confidence and support of Member States and to overcome the gaps between rhetoric and reality, between commitments and scant resources and between early warning and early action. Shared ownership of prevention action by the UN's main organs was crucial; it was therefore worth exploring

the coordination between the Presidents of the Council, the GA and ECOSOC. Ambassador Spatafora stated that teamwork was essential to build on the complementarities of each organ.

H.E. Mr. Peter Maurer, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations, Co-Chair of the General Assembly Group of Friends on Conflict Prevention

Referring to resolutions 1366 (2001), 1625 (2005), A/RES/57/337 as well as the World Summit Outcome Document, thematic debates and the creation of the Mediation Support Unit, the Peacebuilding Commission, amongst others, Ambassador Maurer cautioned participants against underestimating the amount of progress already made on conflict prevention even if as he admitted the success had been limited. He stressed the need to concretize and implement the information from various intergovernmental bodies and made the following suggestions regarding the implementation of Security Council resolutions: develop a checklist of objectives; add details to Secretary-General's reports on ways in which conflict prevention had been addressed; give additional time to such discussions in the Council; encourage the Secretary-General to make greater use of Article 99; consider using the risk assessment methodologies currently employed in the private sector; strengthen the analytical capacities of the Secretariat; make greater use of Groups of Friends, Arria Formula meetings and seminars; ask Special Representatives in Africa to provide lessons learned; ask the Secretary-General to report on achievements based on indicators and targets; hold an annual landmark debate on conflict prevention in Africa; use a results-based budgeting framework for conflict prevention; examine commonalities between the various platforms in order to avoid encroachment; and establish an advisory body of academics for the General Assembly, Security Council and ECOSOC and sequence the agenda items of each of those organs.

H.E. Mr. Dumisani Kumalo, Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations, Co-Chair of the ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on African countries emerging from conflict

Noting that the P-5 did not believe that the Council's mandate should be extended to conflict prevention, Ambassador Kumalo stressed that there was a need to convince all Council members, especially the P-5, of the underlying need for conflict prevention. The Council, he said, worked well when conflict had already broken out but was not in tune with the fact that it was cheaper to prevent conflicts than to deal with them later on. It was, therefore, important that ECOSOC's advisory body worked together with other organs on conflict prevention. However, because of their "psychological make-up", it was difficult, he said, to hold a Security Council meeting with ECOSOC. Ambassador Kumalo believed that the Peacebuilding Commission therefore had an important role to play.

H.E. Mr. Yukio Takasu, Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission

Ambassador Takasu challenged conventional thinking that insisted that peacebuilding should naturally follow peacekeeping. The Security Council, he said, should focus on conflict prevention by detecting "downturns" in the situation on the ground and should extend its support to the Secretary-General's preventive efforts, which would prevent post-conflict countries from relapsing into violence. The main tasks of the Peacebuilding Commission were to find gaps and identify priorities, to marshal resources and to improve the coordination between stakeholders.

With regard to interaction between the Security Council and the Peacebuilding Commission, Ambassador Takasu recommended that the Council support and promote priority areas identified by the Peacebuilding Commission by making improvements on the ground. In the case of Burundi, the Council could support the Government in fulfilling its commitments in the Strategic Framework and in Sierra Leone, the Council should support the Government's commitment to the Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework. Ambassador Takasu added that the Peacebuilding Commission must maintain a close dialogue with the Security Council and its Presidents and stressed that briefings on country-specific issues should be beneficial to both the Council and the Peacebuilding Commission.

Mr. Harvey of the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom

Referring to resolution 1625 (2005) and the many factors at work in conflict prevention, Mr. Harvey stressed the importance of bringing more cohesion to the collective efforts of the UN. Sustainable peace required achieving the MDGs, addressing human rights abuses and social exclusions as well as bringing those who violated international humanitarian law to account. In addition, good governance and political participation should be encouraged. It was crucial, Mr. Harvey noted, that all in the UN should become involved in conflict prevention by moving towards a coordinated approach as called for in the World Summit Outcome Document. The UN should also examine ways to combine peacekeeping with reconstruction, development, etc and should not compromise the flexibility needed to respond to individual crises. It was also important to maximize the best practices of the Peacebuilding Commission. The United Kingdom, he said, believed

that the UN should give greater consideration to those issues while simultaneously strengthening the capacity of the Secretariat.

Mr. Jorge Corrales, Counselor, Permanent Mission of Panama
Mr. Corrales insisted that it was the task of all members to improve mechanisms needed to achieve conflict prevention. The political will to act must not be subject to dual criteria and initiatives to move forward must be supported. Referring to the independent investigation into the 1994 genocide in Rwanda (S/1999/1257), in particular the recommendations 8, 9 and 10, Panama emphasized the importance of managing the flow of information within the UN system, including to the Security Council especially with regard to matters related to human rights. Panama, he said, believed that the Security Council could improve its procedures and be more open and accessible to parties in conflict.

Mr. Tete Antonio, Minister Counselor, Permanent Mission of Angola
As a former Chair of the Ad Hoc Working Group, Mr. Antonio, said that it had been difficult to hold a joint meeting between the Security Council and ECOSOC and suggested that there was a need to fine-tune the approach. Angola, he said, did not believe that the Ad Hoc Working Group had taken sufficient advantage of the work of the ECOSOC advisory group.

Mr. Jean-Francis Zinsou, Minister Counselor, Mission of Benin
Having previously chaired the Ad Hoc Working Group, Mr. Zinsou said that the Working Group had tried to give the Council the means to meet its statutory obligations under the Charter. He stressed that resolution 1625 (2005) had been adopted prior to the World Summit Outcome Document as problems had been encountered in prioritizing conflict prevention within the General Assembly The mandate of the Peacebuilding Commission, therefore, dealt with post-conflict peacebuilding. Mr. Zinsou stressed the importance of addressing the underlying causes of conflict in underdeveloped states in order to prevent conflict. It was also essential for the international community to turn back negative trends. He suggested that a forum, structured along the lines of the Peacebuilding Commission should be established between the Security Council and ECOSOC to debate such issues and implement the actions called for in resolution 1625 (2005). Benin, he stated, also believed that there was a need to operationalize risk assessment and the actions of the international community.

Mr. Mahmoud Aboud, Minister Counselor, Permanent Mission of Comoros
Referring to Morocco's comments from earlier that day, Mr. Aboud, declared that the arms trade continued to fuel conflicts in Africa and noted that 95% of arms in Africa came from overseas, while 85% of all arms were manufactured by P-5 states. He asserted that there was a need, to know where the problems originated from and called on arm manufacturers to be accountable.

H. E. Mr. Iya Tidjani, Deputy Permanent Representative of Cameroon
Commenting on Ambassador Kumalo's intervention, Ambassador Tidjani stated that political will was required to reach an understanding on the root causes of conflict. It was also important to have an integrated system among the UN organs, each of which should work within its own mandate.

Mr. Patrick Hayford, Director and Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA)
Referring to the OSAA's annual report on the causes of conflict and promotion of durable peace in Africa, Mr. Hayford said that the Secretary-General had decided that it was now appropriate to review its recommendations and that work on that process had commenced. Mr. Hayford envisaged that the renewal of the Ad Hoc Working Group mandate would lead to interesting and useful proposals, which would help ongoing work on conflict prevention in Africa. The OSAA would continue to collaborate with other parts of the UN and member states in order to advance conflict prevention in Africa.

H. E. Ambassador Dumisani Kumalo, Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations
Responding to members' comments, Ambassador Kumalo noted that Security Council interest in a state often attracted the donor community. He also noted that security, development, human rights, were all inter-related with peacebuilding. However, the P-5, he said, had yet to be convinced of that reality. Ambassador Kumalo believed that the Security Council could create the enabling conditions for assisting states emerging from conflict, but he believed that since they were inter-related, each organ had a specific role to play. Conflict prevention, he asserted, should be the primary vehicle of the General Assembly, but since the Assembly was currently rather weak, he would prefer to have the issue considered by the Security Council. Ambassador Kumalo's advocated the retention the Ad Hoc Working Group as it complimented and strengthened what the General Assembly and ECOSOC were doing. Ambassador Kumalo would also like to see a meeting

between the Council and ECOSOC, but did not believe it was possible given the intransigency of some members in both bodies. Success, he said, would therefore be judged by the scope of collaboration on the ground.

H.E. Ambassador Peter Maurer, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations
Ambassador Maurer agreed that there could be no inter-institutional meetings on conflict prevention if the political will did not exist. The real problem, he believed, lay in the implementation and concretization of the issue. Just as the MDGs had provided targets and indicators for development, Ambassador Maurer believed that the same must be done for conflict prevention, and he believed that action could be taken in New York via Arria Formula meetings, General Assembly thematic debates, etc. Ambassador Maurer also agreed that there was a need to constructively manage information-sharing within the UN.

Mr. Paul Zoumanigui, Counselor, Permanent Mission of Guinea
Mr. Zoumanigui believed that coordination, cohesion and complementarity were essential if the UN sought to achieve its objectives, especially since few people on the ground actually differentiated between the various UN bodies. Referring to a comment made by the representative of Sierra Leone earlier, Mr. Zoumanigui expressed the belief that the concerted action of all UN organs was required to prevent conflict. Guinea, he said, was of the view that if the General Assembly adopted a resolution on conflict prevention, it should try and avoid duplication of resolution 1625 (2005). Achieving results, he said, was important.

H.E. Mr. Marcello Spatafora, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations and Security Council President for the month of December 2007 [Facilitator]
Ambassador Spatafora agreed with Guinea that, globally people were unaware of the mandates of the different organs of the UN, but stressed that it was the organization as a whole that was implementing the Charter. Drawing on Ambassador Maurer's comments, Ambassador Spatafora noted the importance of implementation and concretization and cautioned the Security Council not to re-invent the wheel should the mandate of the Ad Hoc Working Group be extended. It was also crucial, he said, to increase the role of other UN bodies and in that regard, he believed that thematic debates in the GA should be more focused and results-oriented. Ambassador Spatafora also believed that the Security Council could do more to strengthen the roles of the Secretary-General and the Secretariat with regard to mediation and good offices. The crucial point, he said, was that the General Assembly, ECOSOC and the Peacebuilding Commission needed to shift gear. It was important to focus on those aspects that made a difference on the ground. He also agreed that the "legacy" of the Ad Hoc Working Group should be carried forward.

Closing Session:

- ***The role of the Security Council in enhancing coherence in conflict prevention***

Mr. Luc Joseph Okio Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Congo to the United Nations, Chairperson of the Security Council ad hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa

In his closing remarks, Mr. Okio thanked the participants for having added value to the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group. He said their various contributions would feed into the activities of the Working Group. It was also clear from the various interventions, that Security Council members and other participants sought ways to move forward on conflict prevention. He noted, however, that while there was convergence of views on certain issues, not all views coincided and not all participants shared the optimistic about Security Council's role in conflict prevention. Mr. Okio said that the Ad hoc Working Group had taken note of the various proposals made by the participants and requested those who so wished, to forward their written remarks, if any, to the Secretariat. He also informed the participants that the Ad Hoc Working Group would hold a meeting in due course, in order to discuss the outcome of the Seminar, considers the proposals and the procedure for forwarding them to the Security Council.

Annex III

Statements made at the seminar on an effective global conflict prevention strategy in Africa: the role of the Security Council

[Original: French]

Statement by Luc Joseph Okio
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Congo
Chairman of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Security Council on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa

Your Excellencies the Ambassadors,

Distinguished guests,

At the outset, on behalf of the Ad Hoc Working Group of the Security Council on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa, which Congo has the honour to chair, I should like to convey to you my heartfelt gratitude for agreeing to share with us your reflections and experiences during this seminar on the formulation of "An effective global conflict prevention strategy in Africa: the role of the Security Council".

I should also like to reiterate my appreciation to all who took part in the preparations for this important seminar, whose main objective is to strengthen United Nations conflict prevention activities in Africa.

As the Secretary-General so eloquently stated in his latest report on the work of the Organization (A/62/1), that continent, which has such great needs, is, as we all know, also the one whose development is proceeding the least rapidly as compared with the rest of the world.

Among the many challenges it must face are the armed conflicts that deplete its meagre resources, ruining its chances of achieving the Millennium Development Goals. Let us not lose sight of the fact that conflict prevention and sustainable development are mutually reinforcing.

There is no need for me to restate more clearly the relevant portions of the report of the Security Council (A/62/2) and the aforementioned report of the Secretary-General, which set forth in statistical terms the time spent and the resources mobilized for conflict resolution in Africa.

It will be recalled that this seminar is the culmination of a long process that has its roots in:

- Chapter VI of the Charter of the United Nations;
- The 2005 World Summit Outcome Document, paragraph 75 of which stresses the importance of a coherent and integrated approach to the prevention of armed conflicts and the settlement of disputes;
- Security Council resolution 1366 (2001), in which the Council expresses its determination to pursue the objective of prevention of armed conflict as an

integral part of its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security;

- General Assembly resolution 57/337, which emphasizes the importance of a comprehensive and coherent strategy comprising short-term operational and long-term structural measures for the prevention of armed conflict;
- Security Council resolution 1625 (2005), which stresses the importance of establishing effective comprehensive strategies of conflict prevention, focused on averting negative developments in the security, economic, social and humanitarian sectors and in the field of governance and human rights in countries which are facing crises;
- The presidential statement (S/PRST/2007/31) in which the Security Council supports the comprehensive and global approach recommended by the Secretary-General in his July 2006 report and advocates effective coordination between and within United Nations organs, programmes, funds and agencies involved in policy formulation and implementation with a view to preventive activities;
- The important report of the Secretary-General on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa (A/52/871-S/1998/318 of 13 April 1998), which is subject to annual review by and recommendations of the General Assembly; and
- The most recent report of the Secretary-General on the prevention of armed conflict (A/60/891 of 18 July 2006), which advocates a comprehensive three-pronged approach based on structural prevention, operational prevention and systematic prevention.

We find ourselves at the heart of this issue, which requires us to translate our good intentions into concrete action.

The choice of topic for this seminar stems from this recognition of the insufficiency of conflict prevention activities undertaken thus far and of the need to haronize our joint activities.

We would like for this seminar to culminate in the formulation of recommendations that will make it possible to:

1. Bridge existing gaps and moving beyond a piecemeal approach that results in a continual waste of energy and resources;
2. Implement effective synergies consistent with the ongoing structural innovations within the United Nations; and
3. Develop a mechanism that involves the entire United Nations system, the Bretton Woods institutions, the regional and subregional organizations, the private sector and civil society, each of which has a role to play in conflict prevention, and that sets forth clearly the role of the Security Council as the body with primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.

In order to be effective, such a mechanism must be coherent.

As Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon stated on 28 August 2007, during the Security Council's open debate on conflict prevention and resolution, in particular

in Africa: "Conflicts have grown ever more complex. Sustainable solutions, therefore, require increasingly complex, multifaceted approaches."

Ladies and Gentlemen, on behalf of the members of the Ad Hoc Working Group, I call on Your Excellencies to make a constructive contribution to the development of such an approach, which could make a crucial turning point in conflict prevention in Africa, and indeed throughout the world, and thus to imbue with new meaning the original mandate of the United Nations, as stipulated by Article 1 of the Charter.

Thank you.

[Original: English]

Statement of Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, B. Lynn Pascoe, delivered by Margaret Vogt, Deputy Director, Africa I Division, Department of Political Affairs

USG Pascoe has asked me to let you know how much he regrets that he cannot be here today to participate in the Seminar of the Working Group that he personally deems most important. He congratulates you on organizing this timely debate and would like to convey to you, Mr. Chairman, and to all the members of the Group, his deepest appreciation for the critical work undertaken under your åble leadership.

We all agree on the clear value and comparative advantage of prevention and that we must invest more in prevention and mediation efforts so that disagreements do not develop into full-fledged conflicts.

A recent study led by Oxfam, estimated that from 1990-2005 armed conflict cost Africa $300 billion. That sum is equivalent to the international aid delivered by major donors during that period. If that money had not been lost due to armed conflict, it could have been used to address Africa's development and humanitarian needs. The example demonstrates that the overriding challenge for the Security Council and other international actors remains to develop more effective strategies for preventing conflict.

Yet it is only through political settlements that conflicts can be resolved. If we do not deal with the root causes of conflict – and offer sustainable solutions – we will be left with peacekeeping missions without end.

The primary responsibility for conflict prevention rests with each and every Member State concerned. However, effective prevention efforts require a strong consensus among Member State to mobilize the necessary political will and support for UN preventive action.

Conflict prevention is a multidimensional task involving a set of political, humanitarian, development and other measures tailored to each specific context. As a result, we need to develop increasingly multifaceted approaches to prevent conflicts, drawing on the cooperation of many different actors, including Member States, international, regional and sub-regional organizations, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, and other civil society actors including women's groups.

We should ensure that the local people on the ground, women, men and the youth are fully engaged. This would give them an opportunity to share their intimate understanding of the issues which often fuel discord and conflict within their communities, and allow them to participate in developing strategies to overcome these underlying root causes.

The Department of Political Affairs plays a central role in promoting political solutions to disputes or situations that might endanger international peace and security through its efforts in preventive diplomacy and peacemaking. In exercising this mandate, DPA provides political guidance and oversight to five special political missions in Africa (Somalia, West Africa, Central African Republic, and Guinea Bissau).

DPA is also working to strengthen the UN's good offices and mediation role. Our support activities range from technical expertise, development of lessons learned and best practices, to logistical and financial support.

Let me mention a few examples of where DPA is working with the Security Council towards successful conflict prevention in Africa. In Northern Uganda, we work with regional actors to facilitate the peace process and to prevent the recurrence of violence and encourage a durable solution to end this conflict and promote long lasting peace in the region. This has enabled thousands of people to begin to return to their homes for the first time in over twenty years. Another example is our support to the implementation of the Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes region.

The Mediation Support Unit (MSU) has launched a series of pilot activities designed to enhance the quality of support and expertise available to UN and UN-supported mediation efforts.

As part of our endeavour to more effectively assist member states in the prevention of conflicts, we have embarked on a joint effort with UNDP to provide strategic guidance in this regard to Resident Coordinators and Country Teams as they support national efforts. Our Peace and Development Advisors have already supported Country Teams in preventing electoral violence, fostering cross-border stability, and promoting inter-communal dialogue. We are striving to make such successful collaboration with UN Country Teams more systematic, especially in Africa, which also helps in promoting greater coherence of UN preventive action between Headquarters and the field.

The Security Council has at its disposal many tools to address these issues of peace and security. These include:

- the provision of clear and strong mandates for the Secretary-General's efforts in preventive diplomacy;
- ensuring strong and coherent support to the Secretary-General's efforts in preventive diplomacy;
- timely dispatch of fact-finding missions or envoys of the Security Council to areas of growing concern;
- increased use of the Arria Formula or similar arrangements for informal discussions with a variety of actors on situations where a crisis may be emerging;
- imposing sanctions with a view to denying revenue to belligerents and to ensuring that such revenues are used for the legitimate developmental and humanitarian needs of the population of target countries.

Where peaceful methods have failed, the Council, invoking Chapter VII of the Charter, could also decide to intervene militarily. The challenge, however, is to see how to enhance the effectiveness of these tools, and where necessary, reshape our efforts to enable us to respond quickly to these constantly evolving threats.

Effective conflict prevention requires immediate and concrete action. The international community has a moral responsibility to ensure that vulnerable peoples are protected. Preventive strategies are not easy to implement. The costs of prevention have to be paid in the present, while its benefits lie in the future. In addition, the benefits are often not tangible: when prevention succeeds, little happens that is easily visible. Yet, prevention of conflict is the most desirable for promoting the peaceful and just international order envisaged in the Charter.

As we speak, DPA is aware of the existence of potential Darfur-type conflicts across the continent. The Secretary-General's recent proposals to strengthen DPA are meant to enhance our capacity to work with Member States and regional organizations in early warning and conflict prevention, including through the establishment of regional offices. With the support of Member states, DPA will continue to seek ways to enhance its capacity to support efforts for conflict prevention in Africa, which is one of the Secretary-General's top priority. USG Pascoe looks forward to receiving the conclusions of your Seminar upon his return.

Je vous remercie, Monsieur le Président.

[Original: English]

Statement by Patrick Hayford, Director, Office of the Special Adviser on Africa

I am delighted to participate in this important initiative within the framework of the Security Council. At the outset, I would like to express my gratitude to the Chair of the Security Council Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Conflict Resolution in Africa for having launched this important process, and for inviting the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa to assist the Working Group in the organization of the seminar.

The Charter of the United Nations declares that the Organization's objective is to "save future generations from the scourge of war". Preventing conflict is thus the ultimate goal and the highest aspiration of the United Nations.

Africa has come a long way in resolving conflicts. Within a few years, the African Union has made significant progress in elaborating the African Peace and Security Architecture, which consists of instruments, institutions and processes to anticipate, prevent, manage and resolve conflicts. The African Peace and Security Architecture comprise the African Union Peace and Security Council, a Panel of the Wise, a continental early warning system and the beginnings of an African standby force. The conflict management mechanisms of regional organizations, such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Southern African Development Community, which provide additional capacity for peace and security, are important building blocks of this architecture. New institutions have been created and African leaders have unmistakably committed themselves to lead the continent out of decades of war and put it in the path of peace and development.

The role of the Security Council in reaching out and acting decisively when the circumstances require is critical in this endeavor. The Council's determination will lay the foundation of an effective and successful conflict prevention strategy. And so it will the active engagement all other stakeholders. Unity of purpose and effective partnership among all relevant actors must be guiding approach in order to construct a vision and establish a mechanism that will prevent the scourge of war and ensure human security and development for all.

The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa has an important contribution to make to this process. One of the mandates of OSAA is to bring to the attention of the Secretary-General critical issues affecting Africa, in particular on the interrelated issues of peace and development, and to ensure a coherent and integrated approach for United Nations support for the continent's development.

The root causes of conflict are many and diverse, each country, community, culture and tradition is different. We must first and foremost understand the dynamics that, especially within the African contexts, may lead to conflict in order to be able to actively and effectively address these challenges before they erupt.

In 1998, Secretary-General Kofi Annan issued its report on "the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa". In the last decade, Africa has greatly enhanced its capacity to address conflict and its causes, in establishing solid mechanisms to deal with crises and in promoting economic and social development. Recognizing the changing dynamics of the African context and that of the international community, and aware of emergence of challenges which could not be foreseen a decade ago, the Secretary-General has decided to start a strategic review process of the recommendations contained in the report and of the array of mandates and resolution affecting Africa.

The Secretary-General's objective is to find out whether it would be useful to have more systematic arrangements for coordinating action, monitoring progress and sharing lessons learned. This process, and its outcome, will greatly contribute to the establishment of an effective mechanism for conflict prevention as it will provide a wide-ranging depiction of challenges, successes and areas in which the Untied Nations should emphasize its efforts.

I am looking forward to the discussions in the seminar, to build up partnerships and share experiences. Its outcome will also provide valuable guidance to my Office as we engage in the review process. And it will greatly contribute to establishing a clearer path for the establishment of an effective global conflict prevention strategy.

Thank you very much.

Statement by Ngonlardje Mbaidjol, Director of the Office of the United Nations High Commission for Human Rights

1. Introduction

Thank you for the opportunity to address you today on the interface between the UN human rights mechanisms and the Security Council. Due to time constraints I will briefly address the issues and make some suggestions bearing in mind HR perspectives.

Human rights constitutes a third of the three pillars, with economic and social development, and peace and security, on which all the work of the United Nations must be based. As persuasively argued in the former SG Annan's landmark report "In Larger Freedom" the three pillars are interlinked and mutually reinforcing, and are the prerequisites for the collective well-being of all. No society can develop without peace and security. No State can be secure, if its people are condemned to poverty without hope. And no nation can be secure or prosperous for long, if the basic rights of its citizens are not protected. In short, lack of respect for human rights and human dignity is the fundamental reason why the peace of the world today is so precarious and why prosperity is so unequally shared.

The practice of the Security Council is evolving significantly with regard, for example, to its establishment of international tribunals for dealing with grave breaches of human rights and humanitarian law as well as referrals of cases to the ICC. The concept of security also is evolving as the Council has sought in recent years to integrate human rights into efforts for conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping and peace-building. These demonstrate that through practice, the Council's work is taking on a significant human rights dimension within the framework of its responsibilities for the maintenance of international peace and security, in accordance with the United Nations Charter. How can this be streamlined, systematized and institutionalized bearing in mind the challenge imposed by world leaders in Para. 126 of the 2005 Summit Outcome Document namely: **to integrate the protection and promotion of human rights into national policies and to support the further mainstreaming of human rights throughout the UN system, as well as closer cooperation between the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and all relevant United Nations bodies including the Security Council.**

How can these obvious linkages be reinforced to strengthen the capacity and role of the Security Council in conflict prevention? What can the UN human rights special procedures contribute?

2. Main features of the special procedures

Special procedures are mandates created by the Human Rights Council and usually cover thematic or country situations. The resolutions establishing special procedures enable them to examine, investigate, monitor, advise and publicly report on human rights situations in countries, as well as on major human rights themes and phenomena worldwide. In addition to contributing to the definition of thematic human rights issues and addressing country situations, special procedures can provide expert advice and alert on recurrent patterns and emerging crisis. Special procedures can further help identify the root causes and facets of persisting phenomena and refine the possible range of preventive and remedial measures to address them. Such mandates are entrusted to independent human rights experts, appointed to act in their personal capacity for a maximum period of 6 years. By the nature of their work, the human rights special mechanisms have access to a variety of information, which if available to the SC will enhance its role in conflict prevention in Africa.

Special mechanisms can also play an important role in early warning, crisis management and post-conflict support.

- Special procedures mandate-holders process hundreds of communications (urgent appeals and letters of allegation) each year, and on that basis identify trends, patterns of recurrent / emerging situations of concern and observe the evolution of specific situations.
- The weekly short analysis of communications sent by special procedures mandate-holders based on detailed statistics provides a concrete factual background to the detection of possible upcoming crisis situations.
- Through field visits mandate-holders thoroughly assess the overall human rights situation as well as the specific institutional, legal, judicial, administrative and *de facto* situations under their respective mandates.

Through their assessment and discussions mandate-holders identify the root causes and various facets of emerging crisis and there are cases, for instance in the case of Rwanda in the early 90s and Liberia in 2002 where Special Rapporteurs who visited a given country have forewarned a crisis situation.

- o During crisis situations, the on-going monitoring of the situation through the analysis of communications received / sent by Special procedures mandate-holders is a useful tool for the political assessment of the situation.
- o Trends identified through the processing of communications constitute essential information on areas which need reform and strengthened support and are useful elements at the level of technical cooperation / programming needs assessment. Similarly, the continued monitoring of such trends over the years will bring a valuable source of information in assessing progress.

3. Conclusions and recommendations

The Security Council needs better access to human rights information and know-how to incorporate human rights into its conflict prevention efforts. The activities of Special Procedure mechanisms provide opportunities for useful and constructive cooperation with Security Council, with a view in particular to informing on human rights situations in specific countries and suggesting ways to incorporate human rights into country or thematic resolutions adopted by the Security Council to advance the practical implementation of UN action and support.

So far the work of special procedures has only been available to the Security Council through informal Aria Formula discussions. The Security Council has also on occasion, in the case of Cote d'Ivoire, requested regular human rights reports to be sent to its sanctions committee. This practice could be very useful in identifying targets for targeted (smart) sanctions and should be extended and systematized. In most cases, countries or thematic issues under the agenda of the Security Council also have special procedure mandates. The Council could as a rule request periodic briefings from the relevant mandates.

The Council could consider the following:

- Request in a systematic manner periodic briefings by the High Commissioner for Human Rights on human rights situation in countries and on thematic subjects under consideration.
- Request "Guidance/briefing notes" from OHCHR when it considers country situations or specific themes.
- Request "Country profiles" including joint analysis of all mandate holders at the start of each Council Presidency based on the agenda of the SC. The profiles will contain summary/compilation of recommendations made by the Special Procedures and Treaty Bodies.
- Mandate-holders could at the request of Council share information on good practices and lessons learned from their engagement with countries and inform SC of the extent to which countries have been cooperating with the mechanisms and following on their recommendations.
- At the beginning of each Presidency, mandate holders could inform the President of the Council on fact-finding missions planned during that period as well as about their findings at the end of their missions (depending on the agenda), in order to maintain momentum on addressing human rights issues regarding the countries discussed by the SC.
- Use the forthcoming Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the HRC to fuel the information network of the SC for its work on prevention.

Statement by A. Sarjoh Bah, Center on International Cooperation, New York University

I. I wish to start by thanking Ambassador Luc Joseph Okio, the Chairman of the Security Council Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution for convening this important seminar and for inviting me - Thank you Mr. Ambassador.

III. Due to time constraints, my remarks will focus on four issues that I think should underpin any discussion of opportunities and options for cooperation between the Security Council and its African partners aimed at developing a global conflict prevention strategy.

IV. The first issue I wish to address is the question of partnerships. There are several crucial questions that needs be addressed: First, what kind of partnership are we talking about – is it a partnership of equals or one that is tilted in favour of one of the parties? Is there mutual understanding and common ground between the UN and AU on how to forge and sustain a viable partnerships? Is the envisaged partnership aimed at developing an *inter-locking* system or merely to enhance existing arrangements? Addressing these questions will allow the UN, AU and Regional Economic Communities to:

a) identify their comparative advantages;

b) identify entry points in conflict situations and;

c) identify who has leverage on conflicting parties

V. Consequently, any partnership between the UN and African regional and sub-regional entities should be anchored on the principles of: *comparative advantage*; *complementarity* and *ownership*. It is important to emphasize that developing partnerships between the UN, AU and RECs should not be done at the expense of African entities. Among other things, the growing cooperation between the UN and AU in Darfur and elsewhere which is likely to be the norm than the exception for the foreseeable future provides a strong imperative for a move away from the current ad hoc approach to a more structured partnership. Looking at other partnerships, the on-going tensions between the AU and EU over attendance of the forthcoming EU-Africa Summit in Lisbon, later this month reinforces the need for clarity on the notion of partnership.

VI. The second issue that needs to be addressed is the question of reforming the current structure of the Security Council to reflect the critical developments over the past sixty years. The central question here is: what impact will a reformed Security Council have on its conflict prevention efforts in Africa in particular, and in the maintenance of international peace and security generally? To me, reforming the Security Council should be seen as part of the broader process of defining the partnership. There is no doubt that a reformed Security Council will have the unique advantage of enhancing the "legitimacy" of the Council in its conflict prevention efforts. At the same time, a reformed Council with permanent African members will guarantee "continuity" as they will ensure consistent and sustained engagement by the Council, as opposed to the current configuration which promotes varied forms of ad hoc engagements, often with less optimal results.

VII. Thirdly, the Security Council and its African partners should explore options of establishing structured mechanisms for coordinating their activities. The question being: what mechanisms should be put in place to ensure *effective, efficient* and *coherent* coordination between the Security Council, the AU' s Peace and Security Council and other decision-making organs of the Regional Economic Communities?

VIII. In exploring options for strengthening collaboration between the various decision-making organs of the UN, AU and RECs, there is a crucial need to factor in the *political dynamics* and *imperatives* that drive the processes in the different institutions. For example, while members of the PSC and RECs do not have a veto, the same cannot be said of the Security Council – where quite often the national interests of the permanent members of the Council (P-5) shape its posture on critical issues.

IX. Meanwhile, the interface between ECOWAS, the AU and UN in their attempt to resolve the conflict in Côte d'Ivoire provides an interesting example of a trilateral linkage that could provide useful lessons for future conflict prevention initiatives involving the Security Council and its African partners.

X. The fourth and final point deals with issue of providing adequate resources including but not limited to finance to support conflict prevention efforts in Africa, which is currently not the case. It is no gainsaying that conflict prevention is far cheaper than conflict management in both human and material terms. Currently, the UN and other peacekeeping platforms spend billions of dollars on peace operations that might not have been necessary if the right conflict prevention tools were applied at the right time. The EU's African Peace Facility could serve as a model for financing conflict prevention initiatives undertaken by the AU and RECs. Additionally, the Security Council should explore other means of complementing the *carrots and sticks* that are at the disposal of its African partners. The provision of predictable resources will add more juice to the carrots while making the sticks more robust.

XI. Thank you for listening.

Annex IV

Invitation and agenda

The Chairman of the Security Council Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa is pleased to invite you to the seminar on "An effective global conflict prevention strategy in Africa, the role of the Security Council" which will take place on 3 December 2007 in Conference Room 1 (to be confirmed) at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

The seminar will address the following issues:

- Cooperation between the Security Council and the United Nations system organizations;
- Opportunities for cooperation between the Security Council, the African Union and other partners; and
- Cooperation among UN intergovernmental bodies.

The seminar will have morning and afternoon sessions. Each session will hear presentations by key panelists followed by an open, general discussion among participants. Participants are kindly requested to contribute to the debate with short statements or questions to the panel members. Interpretation will be provided.

Please find attached the agenda of the seminar, a registration form and the Presidential Statement S/PRST/2007/31, adopted during the open debate held on 28 August 2007 on "Maintenance of International Peace and Security; the role of the Council in conflict prevention and resolution, in particular in Africa".

Member States of the United Nations, United Nations Departments, Funds and Programmes, Non-Governmental Organizations and other civil society organizations involved in the conflict prevention area are invited to participate in the seminar.

Security Council Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa

"An effective global conflict prevention strategy in Africa: the role of the Security Council"

Monday, 3 December 2007
Conference Room 1

Final Agenda

OPENING SESSION

10:00 – 10:30 am

Mr. Luc Joseph OKIO
Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Republic of the Congo to the United Nations, Chairperson of the Security Council ad hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa

Mrs. Margaret Vogt
Deputy-Director, Africa I Division, DPA

H.E. Mrs. Lila Hanitra Ratsifandrihamanana
Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations

Mr. Patrick Hayford
Director and Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Special Adviser on Africa

SESSION I

10:30 – 12:00 noon

Cooperation between the Security Council and UN system organizations

How can the Security Council better support the Secretary-General's role in preventive diplomacy, including his good offices and mediation efforts? How can the interaction between the Security Council and the UN system in the area of conflict prevention be enhanced? What best practice cases do we have in which the Security Council and the UN system have collaborated on conflict prevention initiatives?

Facilitator: Mrs. Margaret Vogt
Deputy-Director, Africa I Division, DPA

Panelists:

- Mr. Jan Egeland, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on matters relating to the prevention and resolution of conflicts
- Mr. Francis Deng, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities
- Mrs. Sally Fegan-Wyles, Director of the United Nations Development Group
- Ms. Carolyn McAskie, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support
- Mr. Bacre Ndiaye, Director, Human Rights Procedures Division, OHCHR

General discussion

SESSION II

12:00 – 1:00 pm ***Opportunities for cooperation between the Security Council, the African Union and other partners***

How can partnerships be established and developed? How could the Council fully use information and early-warning on situations from field-based organizations? How could the Council enhance its support to partners engaged in the prevention or resolution of conflict, especially regional organizations?

Facilitator: Dr. Kwesi Aning, Kofi Annan Center, Accra, Ghana

Panelists:

- H.E. Mrs. Lila Hanitra Ratsifandrihamanana, Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations
- H.E. Mr. João Manuel Guerra Salgueiro, Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations, EU Presidency
- Dr. Sarjoh Bah, Center on International Cooperation, New York University

General discussion

Lunch Break

3:00 – 4:00 pm FOLLOW-UP TO SESSION II

General discussion

SESSION III

4:00 – 5:30 pm ***Cooperation among UN intergovernmental bodies***

Strengthening the Security Council's interaction with the General Assembly, the ECOSOC, the Peacebuilding Commission and the UN Human Rights mechanism.

Facilitator: H.E. Mr. Marcello Spatafora, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations, President of the Security Council for December

Panelists:

- H.E. Mr. Peter Maurer, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations, Co-Chair of the General Assembly Group of Friends on Conflict Prevention
- H.E. Mr. Dumisani Kumalo, Permanent Representative of South-Africa, Co-Chair of the ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on African countries emerging from conflict
- H.E. Mr. Yukio Takasu, Permanent Representative of Japan, Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission

General discussion

CLOSING SESSION

5:30 – 6:00 pm **Conclusions and Recommendations:** ***The role of the Security Council in enhancing coherence in conflict prevention***

Mr. Luc Joseph Okio, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Republic of the Congo to the United Nations, Chairperson of the Security Council ad hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa

Annex V

List of participants

Security Council Members

Belgium:	H.E. Mr. Johan Verbeke, Permanent Representative Mr. Karl Dhaen, Counsellor Ms. Delphine Delieux, First Secretary
China:	Mr. Dai Demao, Attaché Mr. Cheng Lie, Attaché
Congo:	Mr. Justin Biaboroh-Iboro, Minister Counselor Mr. Raphael Dieudonné Maboundou, First Counsellor Mrs. Chantal Itou-Apoyolo, First Counsellor Mr. Emile Mbou-Mylondo, First Counsellor Mr. Boniface Lezona, First Counsellor
France:	H.E. Mr. Jean-Pierre Lacroix, Deputy Permanent Representative Ms. Miriame Fleurdépine, Press Attaché
Ghana:	H.E. Mr. Leslie Christian, Permanent Representative Mr. Sebastian Beliwine, First Secretary
Indonesia:	Mr. Sidharto Reza Suryo-di-Puro, First Secretary
Italy:	Mr. Antonio Alessandro, First Counselor Mr. Gianluca Brusco, First Secretary
Panama:	Mr. Jorge Corrales, Counsellor
Peru:	Mr. Vitaliano Gallardo, Counsellor Ms. Romy Tincopa, Minister Counsellor
Qatar:	Mr. Tariq Al-Ansari, First Secretary
Russia:	H.E. Mr. Konstantin Dolgov, Deputy Permanent Representative Mr. Oleg Kravchenko, Counsellor
Slovakia:	H.E. Mr. Michal Mlynár, Deputy Permanent Representative
South Africa:	H.E. Mr. Baso Sangqu, Deputy Permanent Representative
United Kingdom:	H.E. Ms. Karen Pierce, Deputy Permanent Representative Mr. Nick Harvey, First Secretary Ms. Catriona Mace, Desk Officer
United States:	H.E. Mr. Gerald Scott, Senior Adviser Mr. Jeffrey DeLaurentis, Minister Counsellor

Facilitators and Panelists

1. Mr. Luc Joseph Okio, Chargé d'Affaires, Permanent Mission of Congo to the UN Chairman of Ad hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa
2. Mrs. Margaret Vogt, Deputy-Director, Africa I Division, DPA
3. H.E. Mrs. Lila Hanitra Ratsifandrihamanana, Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations
4. Mr. Patrick Hayford, Director and Officer-in-Charge, Office of the Special Adviser on Africa
5. Mr. Jan Egeland, Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Matters relating to the Prevention and Resolution of Conflict
6. Mr. Francis Deng, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide and Mass Atrocities
7. Ms. Sally Fegan-Wyles, Director, United Nations Development Group
8. Mr. E Eloho Otobo, Director, Strategic Planning, Peacebuilding Support Office
9. Dr. Kwesi Aning, Kofi Annan Center, Accra, Ghana
10. H.E. Mr. João Manuel Guerra Salgueiro, European Union Presidency (Portugal)
11. H.E. Mr. Fernando Valenzuela, Head of the delegation of the European Commission
12. Dr. Sarjoh Bah, Center on International Cooperation, New York University
13. H.E. Mr. Marcello Spatafora, Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations and Security Council President for the month of December 2007
14. H.E. Mr. Peter Maurer, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the United Nations, Co-Chair of the General Assembly Group of Friends on Conflict Prevention
15. H.E. Mr. Dumisani Kumalo, Permanent Representative of South Africa to the UN, Co-Chair of the ECOSOC Ad Hoc Advisory Group on African Countries Emerging from Conflict
16. H.E. Mr. Yukio Takasu, Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations, Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission
17. Mr. Mr. Ngonlardje Mbaidjol, Director of the Office of the High Commission for Human Rights

UN Member States

1. H.E. Mr. Ibrahima Sow, Permanent Representative of Guinea to the UN
2. H.E. Mr. El Mostafa SAHEL, Permanent Representative of Morocco to the UN
3. H.E. Mr. Claude Heller, Permanent Representative of Mexico to the UN
4. H.E. Mr. Jean-Marc Hoscheit, Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the UN
5. H.E. Mr. Baki Ilkin, Permanent Representative of Turkey to the UN
6. H.E. Mr. Piet de Klerk, Dep. Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the UN
7. H.E. Mr. John Mcnee, Permanent Representative of Canada to the UN
8. H.E. Mr. Jorge Skinner-Klee, Permanent Representative of Guatemala to the UN
9. H.E. Mr. Jean-Marc Hoscheit, Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the UN
10. H.E. Mr. Zina Andrianarivelo-Razafy, Permanent Representative of Madagascar to UN
11. H. E. Mr. Somduth Soborun, Permanent Representative of Mauritius to the UN
12. H.E. Mr. Hamid Chabar, Deputy Permanent Representative of Morocco
13. H.E. Mr. Iya Tidjani, Deputy Permanent Representative of Cameroon
14. H. E. Mr. Sylvester Rowe, Deputy Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone
15. Ms. Maria-Alicia Terrazas, Minister Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Bolivia to UN
16. Mr. Jean-Francis Zinsou, Minister Counselor, Permanent Mission of Benin to the UN
17. Mr. Mahmoud Aboud, Minister Counselor, Permanent Mission of Comoros to the UN
18. Mr. Tete Antonia, Minister Counselor, Permanent Mission of Angola to the UN
19. Mr. Alfred Moussoti, First Counselor Permanent Mission of Gabon to the UN
20. Mr. Paul Zoumanigui, Counselor, Permanent Mission of Guinea to the UN
21. Mr. Bartjan Wegter, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Netherlands to the UN
22. Mr. Hassan Hassan, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of Sudan to the UN
23. Mr. El Sa Nawy, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Egypt to the UN

24. Mr. Harvey, Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom to the UN
25. Mr. Huseyin Muftuoglu, Permanent Mission of Turkey to the UN
26. Ms. Petra Ruffer Lustigova, Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the UN
27. Mr. Miha Erman, Permanent Mission of Slovenia to the UN
28. Mr. Andres Kirn, Permanent Mission of Slovenia to the UN
29. Mr. Jan Valena, Permanent Mission of Slovenia to the UN
30. Ms. Nina Hojnik, Permanent Mission of Slovenia to the UN
31. Mr. Vansa Černivec, Permanent Mission of Slovenia to the UN
32. Mr. Mark Richardson, Second Secretary, Permanent Mission of Canada to the UN
33. Mr. Jose Alberto Briz Gutierrez, Permanent Mission of Guatemala to the UN
34. Mr. Naoki Ishikawa Permanent Mission of Japan to the UN
35. Mr. Moises Gonzalez, Permanent Mission of Venezuela to the UN
36. Ms. Mourabit, of the Permanent Mission of Morocco to the UN
37. Representative of Algeria
38. Representative of Australia
39. Representative of Burkina Faso
40. Representative of Cape Verde
41. Representative of Chad
42. Representative of Colombia
43. Representative of Costa Rica
44. Representative of Cote d'Ivoire
45. Representative of Croatia
46. Representative of Cuba
47. Representative of Djibouti
48. Representative of the Dominican Republic
49. Representative of Finland
50. Representative of Germany
51. Representative of Iceland
52. Representative of Ireland
53. Representative of Israel
54. Representative of Kenya
55. Representative of Liberia
56. Representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
57. Representative of Mauritania
58. Representative of Niger
59. Representative of Pakistan
60. Representative of Poland
61. Representative of Portugal
62. Representative of the Republic of Korea
63. Representative of Romania
64. Representative of Serbia
65. Representative of Sweden
66. Representative of Switzerland
67. Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic
68. Representative of Togo
69. Representative of Ukraine
70. Representative of Viet Nam

Observers

1. H.E. Mr. Moussa Makar Camara, Permanent Observer of the International Organization of La Francophonie, New York
2. Ms. Alice Mungwa, African Union Observer Mission to the UN

3. Mr. Charles-Michel Geurts, First Counsellor, European Commission Mission to the UN
4. Mr. Roland Adjo-Lessing, International Organization of La Francophonie, New York
5. Mr. Andrey Pirogov, Assistant Director-General/Executive Director, WHO, New York
6. Mr. Werner Obermeyer, External Relations Officer, WHO, New York
7. Ms. Anke Strauss, International Organization for Migration, New York
8. Mr. Carlo Von Flue, ICRC, New York
9. Mr. Uli Piest, UNEP, New York

Non-Governmental Organizations

1. Mr. Greg Pulley, Head of Office, Oxfam International, New York
2. Mr. Mark Whitlock, Columbia Univ. Center for International Conflict Resolution, NY

UN Common System

1. Ms. Mieko Ikegame, OSAA
2. Mr. Francesc Claret, OSAA
3. Mr. Mitonga Zongwe, DPKO/Africa Division
4. Ms. Leslie Wade, DESA/OESC
5. Mrs. Gay Rosenblum-Kumar, DESA
6. Mr. Ejidike Martin, OHCHR
7. Mr. Philip Helminger, PBSO
8. Mr. Harris Gleckman, UNCTAD
9. Ms. Micheline Ravololonarisoa, UNIFEM
10. Mr. Amjad Abbashar, OCHA
11. Mr. Oseloka Obaze, DPA/SCAD
12. Mrs. Nayang Charwath, DPA/OASG
13. Ms. Roselyn Akombe, DPA/OUSG
14. Mr. Gumisai Mutume, DPA/Africa II
15. Mrs. Madeline Knaup, DPA/Africa II
16. Ms. Christelle Rodrigues Da Costa, DPA/SCAD
17. Ms. Marylyn Alfred, DPA/SCA